JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 12, 1925 *Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.* Postage in U.K. or Abroad, 1d.

JOHN BULL

OVER A MILLION CERTIFIED NET SALE

Vol. XXXVIII. No. 1019. TWOPENCE.

Get Marconi Valves in the purple box

At all radio dealers

OUR XMAS GIFT TO YOU
See page 2

The Creeping Hand

by A. G. GARDINER

Why suffer with Indigestion?

A Martyr for Years.

"I have been a martyr to gastritis for years, and was as bad as ever after medical treatment. My wife was cured of acute indigestion by Bisurated Magnesia and begged me to give it a trial, which I did, and the result is I am completely cured and can enjoy my food as well as anyone. I cannot praise Bisurated Magnesia too highly."

Acidity and Indigestion Cured.

"Just a word of praise upon the great benefit I have received from the use of Bisurated Magnesia. I have been a great sufferer of acidity and indigestion for years; after trying all kinds of medicines I have found this to have done me a great deal of good, in fact I might say it cured me."

Relief after 20 Years' Suffering.

"I have suffered from indigestion for over 20 years, but I have found nothing to do me so much good as Bisurated Magnesia. I found relief at once and shall recommend it to all my friends."

Pain Instantly Relieved.

I suffered great pain for some time, day and night, with indigestion, and I began to think I was never going to get better, and I attended the doctor but his medicine did me no good. I was advised to try Bisurated Magnesia, which I did, and am grateful to say that it gave me instant relief."

Splendid Treatment.

"I feel it is my duty to recommend Bisurated Magnesia to all people suffering from indigestion. I have derived much benefit from the splendid treatment, and my advice to all stomach sufferers is, don't delay, take at once Bisurated Magnesia."

Greatest Relief.

"I have suffered from acute indigestion and a lining on my stomach for the past three years. I tired of going to doctors and taking medicine which did me no good. I was persuaded to try your Bisurated Magnesia, and I am thankful to say I got the greatest relief."

A FEW OF THE THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS RECEIVED FROM GRATEFUL USERS OF

IN POWDER
More suitable for family use in the home
1/3 and 3/-

'BISURATED' MAGNESIA

IN TABLETS
Flasks, handy for the pocket or handbag,
1/3 and 2/6

BISMAG LTD. MUNSTER SQUARE, LONDON, N.W.1

JOHN BULL'S Great Xmas Gift to You

DEC 25
JOHN BULL'S Christmas Gift Voucher
1/-
This Xmas Gift Voucher will be accepted as One Shilling in part payment of the famous "John Bull" Pen. Only one voucher will be taken in part payment for each Pen. Offer available until December 31, 1925.

Don't be too late!

As ChristmasDay approaches, the flood of applications which come by every post is making huge inroads into th · 20,000 Gift Sets specially set aside for "John Bull's" Christmas Gift offer. We would advise every reader who desires to participate in this grand distribution to make immediate application before it is too late. Here is the offer :—

(1) A present of One Shilling in the form of the above Voucher, which on presentation will be accepted as One Shilling Cash in part payment of the famous "John Bull" 5/- Pen, equal in every respect to Pens usually sold at double or treble the price. Fitted with 14-Ct. Solid Gold Nib, iridium tipped, safety cap. A writ en two years' Guarantee with each pen.

(2) A Gift of a magnif'cent 2 6 Everpointed Pencil, heavily plated, complete with re-fills.

(3) A dazzling presentation Golden Box—the handsomest box that ever contained a pen.

Cut out the Presentation Voucher above, attach to Coupon and post to-day. Don't be too late.

A New Idea!

Have your name engraved in gold on the pen (6d. extra - see Coupon).

2/6
"Everpointed" Pencil
FREE!
—heavily plated, beautifully chased, with re-fills and clip complete.

Christmas Gift Coupon.

"JOHN BULL," Pen Dept., Long Acre, W.C.2.

Please send me the Golden Christmas Gift Set, containing the "JOHN BULL" 5/- Lever Filler Pen, and FREE 2/6 Everpointed Pencil.

I enclose Gift Voucher (which please accept as 1/- in part payment), together with Postal Order for 4/3 (*which includes Postage and Insurance*).

(Pocket Clip 2d. each extra.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Fine, medium or broad nib. (*Cross out grades not required.*)

Your name engraved in gold on Pen, 6d. extra .....

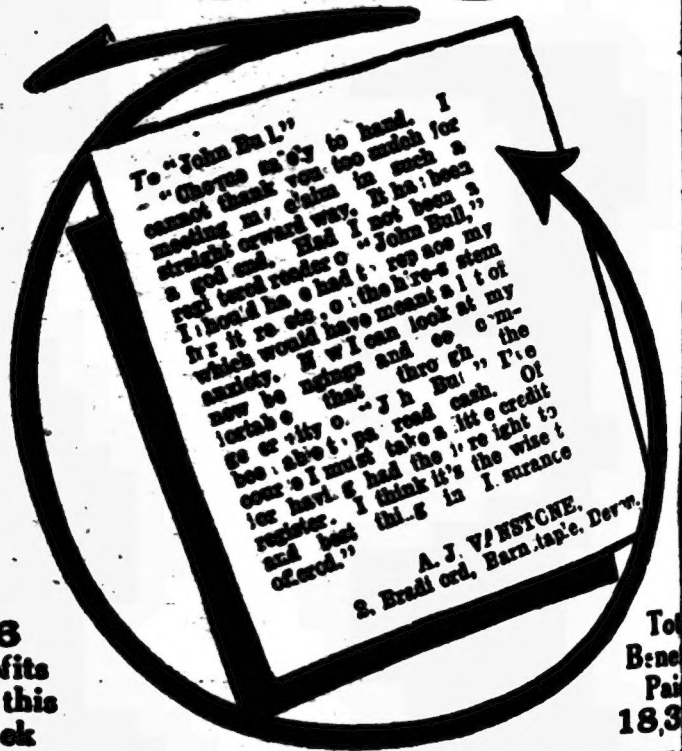
(*Write in capitals unless desired.*)

Cross Cheque/P.O. "& Co.," and make payable to "JOHN BULL." J.B. 12.12.25.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREAT FREE INSURANCE GI

FIRE!

An open letter to JOHN BULL


To "John Bu L"
- "Cheque ar'ey to hand. I
cannot thank you too much for
meeting m' claim in such a
straight orward way. It ha: been
a god end. Had I not been a
regi tered reader o "John Bull,"
I should ha e had t· pay ace my
fir it re ele : o the hi·e- stem
which would have meant a l t of
anxiety. H w I can look at my
now be nings and so e·m-
fortable that thro gh the
ce er ·ity o - J h Bu ," I'm
boo able t· pa read cash. Of
cour e I must take a lit e credit
for havi g had the ·· re ight to
register. I think it's the wise t
and best thi-g in I surance
cover d."
A. J. WESTCNE,
2, Bradford, Barnstaple, Devon.

76 Benefits Paid this Week

To Bene Pai 18,3

CUT HERE.

POST THIS COUPON TO "JOHN BULL."

To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

Reader's Name in full ..... Age.....
(CAPITAL LETTERS.)

Address .....

.....

Reader's Signature .....

Name and Address of Newsagent .....

.....

Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't send envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

CUT HERE. HAND THIS COUPON TO YOUR NEWSAGENT.

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address .....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

Date .....

FOR HALF-A-CROWN A WEEK!

Perhaps you've always regarded the telephone as an expensive luxury—beyond your means?

Perhaps you'll be astonished to know how little it costs?

NOTHING—to instal.
NOTHING—for the calls you receive.
ONE PENNY—for each local call you make.
RENTAL—2/1 to 2/6 a week.

Is that too much to pay for the luxury of being within a few seconds' talking distance of everyone else who is on the 'phone? After all, nearly *everyone* is on the 'phone—your friends, your shops, your doctor, your theatre, your office. . . . . A luxury, did we say? Isn't the telephone a practical need of modern life?

Why aren't YOU *on the 'Phone?*

Write your name and address in the space below, post the coupon (½d. stamp only if envelope is left unsealed) and you will receive a free booklet which will tell you everything you want to know about getting the telephone into your own house.

Please write clearly.

NAME.....
(Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc.)

ADDRESS.....

(H. 8/12/25) .....

Post to The Telephone Development Association, 10, Bedford Street, London, W.C.2.

WHEN SENDING
Write your name and address in block letters. Give exact descriptions of goods required. Send Money and Treasury Notes by registered post. Always mention JOHN BULL.

The Mail Order Market

A Perfect Postal Service for Bargain-Hunters.

YOUR PROTECTION.
The JOHN BULL guarantee covers all offers in this section. You can send your money as safely as buying across a store counter, so post your order to-day.

YOURS for 5/-

The biggest bargain of the year

Very Smart All Wool Cheviot Chesterfield, fully lined. Best quality trimmings and coat is exceptionally tailored. To-day's price 55/-. Pay 5/- down and the balance 5/- monthly until you have paid in all **32/6**

Or 29/6 cash with order.

Money refunded if not satisfied.

Also Suits made to measure from 50/6 on easy terms as well.

J. B. THORNE & CO.
36, LANGHAM ST., LONDON, W.1

Gifts that will Please

OVAL WAITER, heavy nickel plate, beautifully chased, length 22½ ins., width 13½ ins. Looks like silver, will wear like silver throughout. Sheffield make. Will last a lifetime. 6/6only. Post 9d.

STAINLESS SHEFFIELD CUTLERY. 6 Stainless tea knives, coloured handles (non-inflammable), 6 Stainless Nickel Tea Spoons, and pair of Sugar Tongs. Perfect finish. In fitted presentation case. A delightful gift. Only 11/6. Post 6d. Satisfaction or money back. LOMAX BROS., 321-325a, London Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. Make cheques, etc., payable to Lomax Bros., and cross "& Co."

66 Carriage Paid

IMMEDIATE DESPATCH GUARANTEED

11/6 POSTAGE 6d

FREE A Full-size stick of Joyce Lycol Shaving Soap To Men who Shave Themselves

Send for YOUR FREE GIFT NOW!

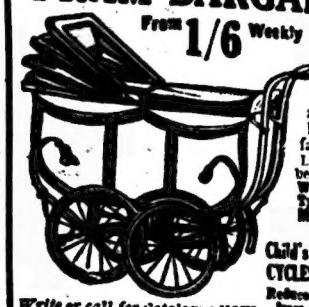
Yes, absolutely free, a genuine full-size stick of Joyce Lycol Shaving Soap, value 1s. The distributors of KING EAGLE RAZOR BLADES make this special introductory offer to JOHN BULL readers who use a Gillette Pattern Razor, in order to gain another 10,000 satisfied customers for their super-edge blades. Merely send 1s. 6d. (which includes postage and packing), and you will receive by return your free gift and ONE DOZEN of the world's best and cheapest blades.

KING EAGLE RAZOR BLADE CO., Dept. J.B., 17, BARTHOLOMEW CLOSE, LONDON, E.C.1.
Trade Enquiries invited.

PRAM BARGAINS

We will send you

From 1/6 Weekly ON APPROVAL Packed free and Carriage Paid any one of our lovely world-famous PRAMS. Large and roomy, beautifully finished in Black or White enamel. Hoods, Tyres, cycle wheels. Models from 90/-



Write or call for Catalogue NOW.
IMPERIAL CARS (Dept. 6), 159-163, PENTONVILLE ROAD, KING'S CROSS, LONDON, N.1

Child's 'WONDER' CYCLES Reduced from 49/6 to 39/6 Carr. Pd.

ANY MAKE SUPPLIED ON EASY TERMS

We offer the pick of the World's Finest Horn or Hornless Gramophones at HALF SHOP PRICES on EASY TERMS to suit you. 14 DAYS' FREE APPROVAL, with records complete. Money refunded if dissatisfied.
WRITE FOR FREE LISTS.
CENTO GRAMOPHONE COMPANY (G. 7), LAVENDER HILL, LONDON, S.W.11.
(Propt.): GEO. SMITH (Clapham Junc.) Ltd.

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Celebrated
SPARE TIME AGENCY
CASH OR CREDIT

Boots, Coat's and Ladies' Clothing, Suits, Coats, Costumes & Underwear, Carpets, Lino, Drapery, Gramophones, Watches, Clocks, China, Toys, Baby Carriages, etc.

If you require employment apply at once or Agents.

Largest stock in the trade. Liberal supply of samples. Highest Commission paid.

NO OUTLAY. ALL PROFIT.
Enquiries by Agency Applied.

LAVENDER HILL, LONDON.

SAMPLES FREE

FLOOR COVERING

THICKER THAN LINOLEUM.
THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

Waterproof, Rotproof and Sanitary. For either Brick, Stone, Concrete or Wood Floors

Being stainless a damp cloth is all that is required to clean it. Supplied in rolls containing 60 square feet for 15/-: 120 square feet 30/- Longer lengths pro rata.

ALL ROLLS ARE TWO YARDS WIDE

The only floor covering made that can be used on either wood or damp stone floors.

Send for free samples of the actual material and admire the exclusive designs and beautiful finish—the work of the master craftsman.

J. B. ANDREWS & SONS, 26, Carter Street, London, S.E.17.

PROTECT YOURSELF NOW!

You may be stopped by a bully any time but a Revolver will protect you. BUY TO-DAY A SAFETY REVOLVER. Accidents impossible. Exact replica of real revolver converted to Fire Blank Cartridges only. Useful for Theatricals, Burglars, Sports Meetings, &c. Easily carried in pocket or lady's handbag.

6 CHAMBER Blued Steel or Nickel 9/6 post free
8 CHAMBER Blued Steel or Nickel 12/- " "
Large size 10 CHAMBER Blued Steel or Nickel. Extra heavy pattern 15/- " "
Special Vest Pocket, 6 Chamber .. 7/6 " "
Special Loud Cartridges, 1/6 per 100. Carriage on Cartridges 9d. any quantity.
Illustrated Catalogue free on request.

JAMES MANSFIELD & CO., Ltd., 71, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

A wonderful bargain

We are disposing of our special stock of full-sized Footballs as used by many Clubs—pebble grain hide case with best red rubber bladder. Send postal orders to:

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75, Broad Green Road, Stony Croft, LIVERPOOL.

Free to Wireless Enthusiasts

WRITE NOW

HERE'S a chance for JOHN BULL readers to build a real big valve set at less than half manufacturers' prices. The famous Pete-Scott 48-page book, showing over 20 sets, which even a novice can build at home, needing no expensive tools, from a simple crystal set to a Super Valve Set. Each set is illustrated, the high-grade components are fully described, the cost of each part being specified, and is yours for a small deposit, the balance payable monthly. All orders over £5 are sent carriage paid.

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Special Parcels of Carnival Hats, Novelties, Balloons, etc.

for XMAS PARTIES, DANCES, ETC.

24 Assorted fancy Hats 20 Streamers 12 Balloons and Airships 48 Assorted Novelties	Price **5/-** Post free.

A few Hats and Novelties make a lot of fun.

48 Assorted fancy Hats 60 Streamers 24 Balloons and Airships 84 Assorted Novelties	Price **10/-** Post free.

Also 2/6, 15/-, 20/-, 30/-, and 40/- Parcels.
BUY NOW, don't be too late. Send for free lists.
Satisfaction guaranteed.
"UNEEDUS," DEPT. 3, 108, ARUNDEL ST., PORTSMOUTH.

A CHALLENGE

Send 1/- as deposit and we will send you a Pair of Our World Famed Excellsite Adjustable Head-phones, 4,000 Ohms. Test these against any other make (irrespective of price) and if not better results, return to us and we will recompense you. If perfectly satisfied, you send us 1/6 and then 6/- monthly payments of 2/- or 12/6 Cash in 7 Days. We have received over 1,000 Repeat Orders for these Phones in

1/- Deposit

weeks and have over 5,000 Unsolicited Testimonials. Latest Free Catalogue of Everything Wireless.
The Wireless Distributing Co., Ltd. (Dept. J.B.), WIRELESS HOUSE, 21/25, NEWINGTON, S.E.17

THE BOLTON

From 1/3 per week or 5/- per month

Direct from Factory.

2/6 DEPOSIT
IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.
Carr. Paid on approval from
£2:17:6
Cash or Credit.
Write for fully Illustrated free Catalogue showing all latest models.

S. BOLTON, 408, Kingsland Rd., E.8
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FLOORCOVERINGS

Thicker than Cork Lino. Damp proof, Rotproof and Sanitary. Suitable for Wood, Stone, Brick and Concrete Floors. Lays flat without any fastening.

Per **2/-** Sq. Yd. Carr. Paid.

SEND FOR FREE SAMPLES.

CHAS. JONES & SON

(Dept. J.B.)
69, NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY, LONDON, S.E.1, and at 95, BOROUGH ROAD, LONDON, S.E.1.
Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

PAY FOR COAT AS YOU WEAR IT

Ladies' Coat in Velour Cloth. Cut on straight lines. Double breasted. Smartly tailored Coat with double cuff. In Navy, Grey, Fawn, Brown and Black. Pay 6/- down and the balance by monthly instalments of 6/- until you have paid in all **42/-**

Similar Coat in Blanket Tweed 29/6

Before placing your order elsewhere write or call for Patterns, Catalogue, and simple Self-measurement Form.

J. B. THORNE & Co
36 LANGHAM ST. LONDON, W.1

5.19.6

or 6 monthly instalments of 21/- or £1 down and 11 instalments of 10/3.

Cabinet Gramophone as illustrated, ("O" model), beautiful Oak finish, reliable double-spring motor, Fullotone Junior Soundbox. Latest 1926 improvements. Write for new catalogue or call and examine full range of models at
The CABINET GRAMOPHONE Co. (Dept. J.B. 14a) 73, Camden Rd., London Town, N.W. Phone: North 2355.

FULLOTONE Carr. Pd. U.K.

AMAZING VALUE

This Splendid Wristlet Watch, Hallmarked Silver case, fine jewelled movement, with usual H. Samuel guarantee. State Lady's or Gents' size. 3,000 Xmas Gift Bargains like this in H. Samuel's

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FREE BOOK

Send a pen card for it now. Free by use for all buyers.

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RIFANCO-PHONES

BRITISH MADE.

DIRECT from FACTORY. Carriage paid in U.K. Ext. 21 yrs. Thirty types of Gramophone, also mechanical parts without wood from 30/- complete. Motors from 9/-. Sound-Boxes 2/6. Accordeons 8/6. Violins 15/- All accessories or Repair Parts.

£6 10s., or 10 Monthlies

Illustrated Catalogue Free, and Instructions How to make Gramophones, &c. Money back if dissatisfied.

£6 10s. or 64pp. 10 Monthlies

£6 10s. Cash only.

27/6 Cash only.

REGENT CO. 9D, 120, 106 Street, London, E.C.1

LIFE-SIZE SEPIA ENLARGEMENTS

(20 × 16).

Make Ideal Xmas Gifts.

We will send you within seven days a faithful reproduction from any Photo, Group, Snapshot, Film, etc., for

POST **2/-** FREE

REGENT ART STUDIOS (Dept. D) 88, Regent Street, W.1.

Write name and address on back of Photo.

YOURS for 1/-

Send a shilling only, 2/6 on receipt of shoes, if satisfied (or all money returned) and 1/9 per week for 14 weeks and you will secure immediately a pair of shoes usually sold at 27/6. Shoe No. 1028. A smart fancy-bar Shoe for all occasions. Exceptional value. In first quality Patent or Glace Kid, full Louis heel, medium height, latest shape toe. Sizes 3 Half sizes.

PENN SHOE CO.
(Dept. 2.) 89, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.1
BUY BRITISH GOODS

FOR SMALL TRADERS, SHOPKEEPERS.

MONEY-MAKING Bargains for Shopkeepers and Beginners — Sell manufacturers' clearing lines and travellers' samples in General Drapery worth below ordinary price. Big profit certain. Wholesale Catalogue free. — Wolfson's Warehouse, 48, Thomas Street, Manchester.

A.B.C. GUIDE to Remnant and Drapery Trade free. Worth pounds, valuable hints. Make money selling Prints, Towels, Tabling, Travellers' Samples, etc. Send p.c. to-day for Catalogue and full particulars.—Cochrane's Wholesale Warehouse, 3, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

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ARTISTIC Christmas Cards.—120 Choice 1d. to 6d. (30/- with.), 10/-; 60 5/6, 30 3/-. Cat free.—J. E. Hughes, 368, Dudley Rd., B'gham.

LACE & Drapery wholesale. Write Free Xmas List Bargains, sent return. Handkchfs, curtains, hosiery.—Albrit Lace (Dept. B.), 115-16, Houndsditch, E.C.

CHINA & CROCKERY.—Mixed crates on appro. fr. 30/- for Beginners, Hawkers, Markets. Lists free.—Harvey Pottery, Longton, Staffs.

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"FREEMAN'S Spare Time Agency. — See Large Advert. on page 4."

EARN £2 to £5 weekly.—Run a blanket club amongst friends. No outlay. Send for particulars.—Carlisle Mills Co., Dept. 11, Birstall, Leeds.

SPARE-TIME Employment.—Reliable persons in regular employment are required to accept an agency to sell reliable goods, drapery, clothing, boots, etc., cash or easy payments. Liberal commission and splendid selection. 30/- to £5 can be earned weekly. No outlay; no expense.—Dept. 19, J. Turner, 16, The Arcade, Ottiau Road, Bradford.

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WIRELESS!!!—Agents wanted for "LOWDEN" Double Crystal. Doubles Signal Strength. Record sales anticipated. Splendid discounts. Territory now being allotted. Sample box 10/6.—Greening, 9, East Parade, Dorchester.

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"WHY NOT BE A SALESMAN? It's a healthy job—and a well-paid one, with immense prospects." This was the advice given to a man who was dissatisfied with his earnings and could see no future. The friend introduced him to Mr. Wallace Attwood, Britain's greatest teacher of salesmanship, and to-day he is earning £600 a year. Why not let Mr. Wallace Attwood train you? Salesmanship is the one job in the world which, at any age, will help a square peg leave a round hole and better herself. Salesmanship is the big profession of to-day. A very interesting book, "The Profession of Salesmanship," will be sent to you post free on request. Send for your copy to-day.—The Wallace Attwood College, 26F, Bedford Row, London, W.C.1. ('Phone: Chancery 7496.)

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BOYS WANTED; SPLENDID OPENINGS IN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND, CANADA; free farm training; assisted passages; ages 14 to 19.—Apply, Secretary, The Salvation Army, 3, Upper Thames Street, London, E.C., or 12, Pembroke Place, Liverpool.

THE MOTOR INDUSTRY NEEDS TRAINED MEN.—Drivers, Salesmen, Demonstrators, Mechanics, Chauffeur Mechanics and Fitters. Let the British School of Motoring quickly train YOU for a well-paid job. The best equipped school in London. Introductions to positions free of charge. Lowest fees.—Call or write, British School of Motoring, Ltd., Head Office, 8, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, W.1.

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A POSITION as Commercial Traveller or Salesman is DEFINITELY GUARANTEED for every successful student of FIVE WEEKS' tuition in salesmanship. This specialised instruction includes a series of PRACTICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DEMONSTRATIONS. Over 2,500 successes during the past 3 years. Fees are refunded to unsuccessful students. Call or write for prospectus. — SALESMANSHIP, LTD., 56, Kingsway, W.C.2.

WONDERFUL PROFITS IN SWEETS. Lessons given personally or by mail in Sweets and Chocolates. Latest American methods. No special appliances, kitchen utensils only. Pupils are rushed with Xmas orders. Enclose 2d. stamp postage. Ingredients supplied, small quantities for sample.—Liberty Candy Co., Summit House, Wingham Place, Regent Street, London, W.1.

ROYAL MARINES.—BE A SOLDIER AND A SAILOR, TOO.—Young Men are required for entry in the Royal Marines. Age 17 to 23 years. Good pay. All found. Excellent chances of promotion.—Apply by letter to the Director of Naval Recruiting, 35, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

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DO YOU ADVERTISE in 20 Provincial papers for 2/-? Others covering London, England, Wales, 3/6, 4/6, 7/10 and 14/-.—Prospectus, Central Press (Series Dept. 60), 190, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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Prepaid Rate: 8s. per line averaging six words. Minimum Charge, 24s.

Address: The Advertisement Manager, "John Bull," 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

CARNIVAL and Christmas Party Novelties, Balloons, etc., lowest prices, lists free.—"UNEQUUS," 108, Arundel Street, Portsmouth.

GUNS, Rifles, Pistols, Cartridges, Fishing Tackle. Several Bargains. Low prices. List free.—Webster (J.B.), 41, Newington Butts, S.E.11.

LEATHER.—Our Noted Tannage at 1/5½d, 1/7½d, 1/9, 2/- and 2/3 lb.; send for free cutting.—THE YARD LEATHER CO., Merthyr.

DUNKLEY PRAMS.—Free Cot offer.—Particulars, Manageress, 38, Dunkley House, Marble Arch, London, W.1.

MAGIC Tricks, Parcels 2/6, 5/-. Ventriloquist Instruments imitate Birds, 6d. each; 4 for 1/-.—Harrison, 239, Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

CUTLERY FROM FACTORY TO BUYER.—Stainless Nickel. Fruit spn, 1/4; 6 Tea spns, 2/3; Firth Stainless Cake Knife, 5/-; p.f. Save 50 per cent. Beighton Bros., 16, Lloyd's St., Sheffield

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CHINA for Households, Churches, Schools, Institutions, Caterers, at factory prices; 21 years' reputation; catalogue free.—Century Pottery, Ltd., Dept. 120, Burslem, Staffs. Est. 1905.

YOU CAN PLAY THE PIANO TO-DAY

by Naunton's National Music System.

IT makes no difference whether you have had previous lessons or not, whether you are YOUNG OR OLD, WE GUARANTEE that you can play the piano to-day by this wonderful and simple system. There are no sharps, flats or theoretical difficulties to worry you, and no tiresome or wearisome exercises or scales to be learnt. You play correctly with both hands. No difficulty or drudgery whatever.

FAILURE IMPOSSIBLE

"You cannot fail." All you have to do is to sit down to the piano with our music and play it at once.

Over 50,000 people are playing by it and are playing perfectly. If they can do it so can you.

No one need ever say again "I wish I could play"; everyone can do it to-day.

Let us tell you all about this wonderful simple and rapid system.

Take advantage of the offer we make on the coupon below, and by return of post you will receive eight tunes which we guarantee you can play; thus you can prove for yourself the simplicity of our system and the accuracy of our statements. This small outlay will open up the delights of the vast realm of music to you, and give you many years of purest pleasure.

SPECIAL TRIAL OFFER COUPON. *"John Bull," December 12, 1925.*

To the Manager, NAUNTON'S NATIONAL MUSIC SYSTEM, 27, High Street, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.?

I send herewith postal order for ONE SHILLING AND SIXPENCE, for which please send me your Special Instruction Book, containing eight pieces of music, and particulars showing how I can become a thorough musician.

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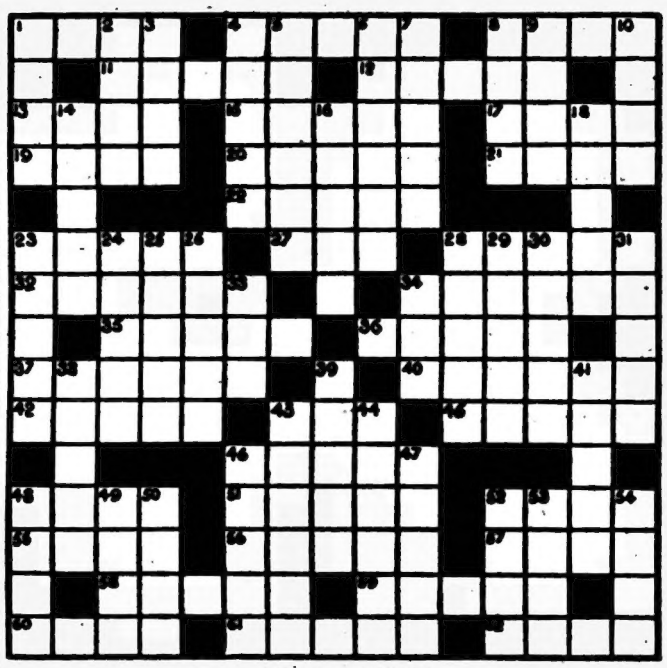

ACROSS CLUES

1. Speedy.
4. Feeding times.
8. Conserve.
11. Extract of flowers.
12. European country.
13. Object of the heavens
15. Concise.
17. Cereal.
19. Colossal.
20. Select portion.
21. Pronoun.
22. Thames.
23. A mould.
27. Father.
28. Imitator.
32. Deadly.
34. Musical composition.
35. Mythological giant.
36. Mortal
37. Entrapped.
40. Pertaining to the teeth.
42. On loan for payment.
43. Suitable.
45. To annoy.
46. Sweet substance.
48. From beyond the Tweed.
51. Clan.
52. Commanded.
55. German for mister.
56. Adjective for rota.
57. The summit
58. To happen again
59. Metal bars.
60. Hard wood.
61. Child's soft toy.
62. For fear that

DOWN CLUES

1. Water animal.
2. Kind of tobacco.
3. Rent.
4. A register.
5. Optic covering.
6. Catalogued.
7. An ox.
8. A groove.
9. Indian woman servant.
10. Compass point.
14. Gossamer-like material.
16. Opponent.
18. Silent.
23. Material.
24. Oil of roses.
25. County.
26. Matched.
28. Sacred cantata.
29. Silly.
30. Mediterranean island.
31. Submarine telegraph wire.
33. Youth.
34. Sorrowful.
38. Relative.
39. Finger.
41. Apart.
43. Great enthusiasm.
44. Herald's coat.
46. Swagger walk.
47. Pass on.
48. Closed.
49. Odd.
50. Travel by waggon.
52. A sphere.
53. Part of the choir.
54. Way out.

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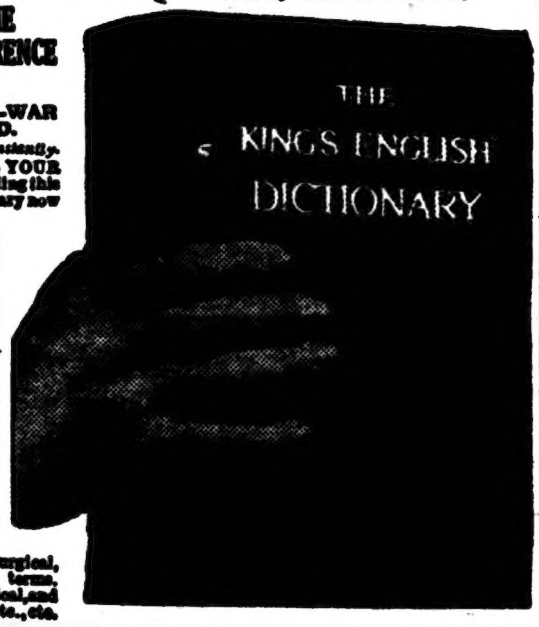

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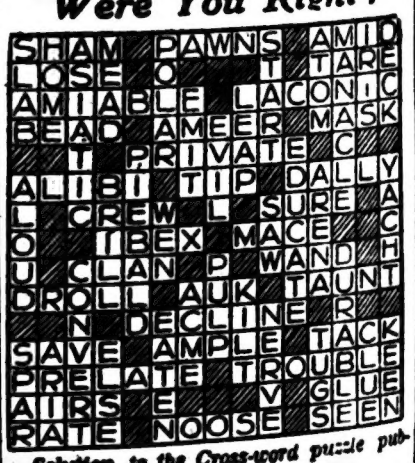

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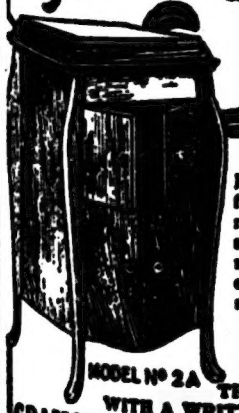

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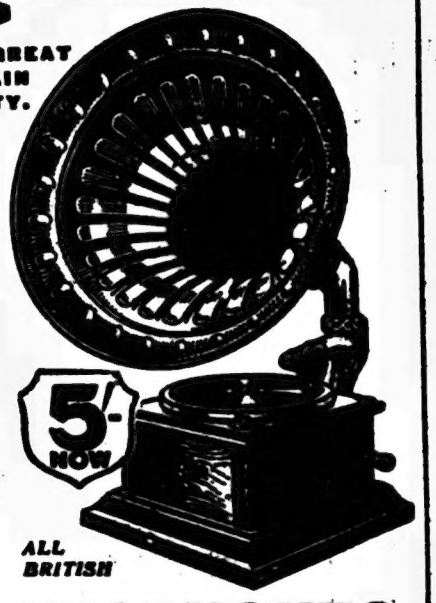

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(*Continued from page* 43)

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TURKEY WINNERS.—A complete list of 250 Turkey Winners in Competition No. 582 will be sent on receipt of a halfpenny stamped and addressed envelope. This list, together with the 200 5 - Prize-winners, will also be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." A list of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

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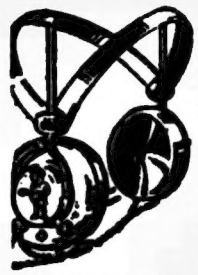

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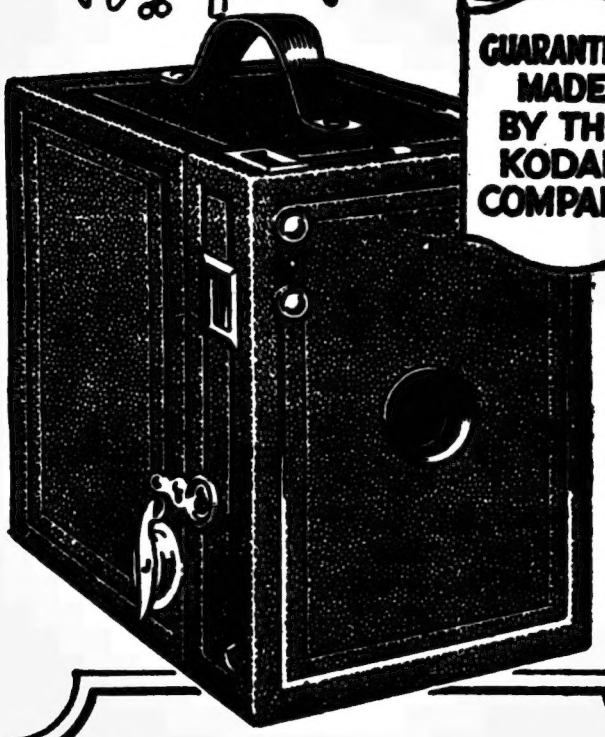

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The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Top Heavy.

No Government can really be effective without a strong Opposition continually gingering it into action. It is idle to talk of Labour and Liberals pulling together in Opposition when each Party is wrangling among its own ranks.

How Many Parties?

In one division Labour is divided, in another the Liberals. And the Government snaps its fingers at both. The result is that it is water-logged by the weight of its own majority.

The Right to Whisper.

Microphones in the Commons are vetoed by both Front Benches. Asides caught in the listening galleries of the Lords are comic. In the Commons they would be catastrophic. Front Bench whispers are not for publication!

Bad "Economy."

The Education Minister's proposal to substitute block grants for percentage grants to local authorities is another instance of shuffling a national service on to the rates. It's an encouragement to risk a generation of rickety minds.

Lunatic Extravagance.

Meanwhile it is worth noting that while the national grant for education is only £46,000,000, national expenditure on the Army, Navy and Air Force is £120,000,000.

Another Trade Incubus.

Worry and delay and expense for every trade in the land—that's the prospect from the "safeguarding" duties on packing or wrapping paper. As with the silk duties, consignments will be held up for weeks.

After the Ball.

When the Locarno Treaty had been signed with kinema and sealing-wax and tapes of many colours, the assembled envoys tested the "Locarno spirit" in very private conference. You may take our word that on practical questions they did not get much "forrarder."

Deliberate Rudeness.

The Government made a bad blunder in "forgetting" to invite Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Asquith, and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald to witness the signing of the Locarno Pact. There's no excuse for sheer bad manners.

A Farce and the Franc.

In France only a million "mugs" pay income-tax—chiefly wretched wage-earners—while a dozen million people legally liable simply dodge it. No Government dare tackle them. So France's debt to us is unpaid and the franc is worth 2¼d.

The Medical Axe.

The worst criminal has a right of appeal, but not a doctor deprived of his livelihood by the General Medical Council. Recent cases have led to the matter being taken up in Parliament. It is time this stupid autocracy was ended.

Big Pots and Little Guns.

In America doctors frankly advertise. In this country the names of those deemed worthy to attend on Royalty are officially advertised! It's the rank and file that is ordered to keep its abilities dark.

Unity is Strength.

The Committee of Civil Research finds the iron and steel industry weakened by the large numbers of small firms lacking co-ordination of purpose. They suggest amalgamation.

Why Not Coal?

If amalgamation of steel and iron industries is desirable the need is tenfold greater in production of coal. Small, divergent interests war against public prosperity. Our demand for unification of the coalfields was not so silly after all!

The Danger.

At the same time it is well to face the fact that combines tend towards high prices despite lower production costs. Side by side with amalgamation should go a legal check on the possibilities of profiteering.

A Mystery.

The annual yield of British tomatoes is 12,250,000 12-lb. packages. Growers get £3,050,000 while consumers pay £5,500,000. Who gets the difference?

Somebody's Lying.

Every section of the trade protests that it is guiltless, yet the fact remains that £2,450,000 goes into somebody's pocket. Here's a little job for the Food Council.

The Fruitful Earth.

There's a splendid potato crop all over England and Wales, 6½ tons per acre being the average yield. Only shameless profiteering, or shameful Government inaction, will keep up prices.

"JOHN BULL" PAYS
76 More Insurance Benefits
TOTAL NOW 18,358.

Britain Supreme.

Hundreds of buyers from the U.S.A. are giving orders for English, Scottish, and Irish woollens for delivery up to the winter of 1927. The trade boom is beginning.

Another Million.

Vickers, Ltd., and Metropolitan Vickers Electrical Co. share the contract for the million-pound scheme for Bristol Corporation. Twelve months' employment for 11,000 men, and a happier Christmas to all of us for knowing it.

Silver Lines, Silver Lining.

Seven large cargo liners, six for Silver Lines, Ltd., are placed for building by Sunderland firms. It lifts the cloud of unemployment for three thousand men. Santa Claus won't forget Sunderland kiddies this year.

Dole Dismalness.

Thirty thousand persons are struck off the unemployment registers because "they were not making a genuine effort to find work." They can't find what isn't there.

Buckle Into It.

There are still one million persons in this country in compulsory idleness. The decline since August is chiefly in women's employment. It's a fact to give statesmen furiously to think.

A Brain Wave.

Edmonton Board of Guardians, having paid out £500,000 on able-bodied unemployed, now propose a test-work scheme. Public improvements will be undertaken and the work will be offered to needy men. Exactly what we've always urged.

Be Firm.

The nuisance grows of traders leaving unsolicited goods of poor quality at high prices at houses in order to force sales. Housewives are within their legal rights if they dump the stuff outside. If they do the plague will cease.

Speaks for Itself.

A Cheshire farm of 160 acres changes hands for £7,700, and a Lincolnshire farm of 280 acres for £5,500. Competition was keen. Farmers are not the class to dump down fortunes for nothing. Can it be true that farming pays after all?

Spragging the Wheels.

Because they added a short sentence to a calendar stating method of printing, the Post Office informed Messrs. Tuit and Son, Ltd., of Inverurie, it would cost a 1½d. stamp inland, though it could go abroad for 1d. It's idiocy such as this that balks British trade.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Asking for Trouble.

At the inquest on Arnold Cooper, a rope-hand employed at Grimethorpe Colliery, who died of injuries received when a train of tubs ran away, it was stated that the engine was left in the sole charge of Frederick Skelley, a boy of fifteen. Whoever gave authority for this should be made legally responsible for Cooper's death.

The Cup of Poverty.

"How far down can I drink?" asked an emaciated boy admitted to a London hospital when a nurse gave him a cup of milk. He was one in a family of thirteen and his father has never earned more than £2 10s. a week. We pass on his question to the bishops who think it wicked for the poor to know about birth control.

Culpable Omission.

The cowardly hesitation of the British Government to ratify the Geneva Convention against the use of white lead in paint is altogether deplorable. The Belgian Senate is the latest governing body to ban this deadly ingredient. Are the lives and health of British working men of less account?

Insurance Sweating.

Black-coated workers in insurance offices complain that they are paid wages at which a scavenger would turn up his nose. In one prominent office five clerks, two of them with five years' service, are receiving an average salary of £70 per annum. If it is not right to call this sweating, we should like to know the polite name for it.

The Butler's Rise.

A country squire, Mr. Thomas Nicholas, of St. Clears, Carmarthenshire, was once the squire's butler. He married the squire's widow, and then lived as a country gentleman to the ripe age of ninety-one. That he won the respect of rich and poor alike shows that the true gentleman is such because of himself, and not because of birth or wealth.

Finding Jobs for Boys.

We congratulate the Middlesbrough Education Committee on an effort to transfer boys from school to work as apprentices and thus cut out the danger of them drifting into blind-alley occupations. Local firms submit a list of vacancies, and the schools reply with a list of suitable boys. This is a step in the right direction.

The Hunger Cry.

"We are down and out; now we shall have food," was the exclamation of William Wells and Juan Alvares, of Ruabon, when arrested for breaking windows. It may have been mere bravado, of course, but more likely it was the bitter cynicism of hunger. There is something wrong with society when men deliberately seek the miserable comfort of the jail.

Crime Incubation.

A fact that stands out from the terrible case at Maidstone, in which a wretch named Guthzlet was charged with an offence against his two daughters, is that, owing to lack of accommodation at home, the father, two boys, and both the girls slept in one room. It is a pity judges so rarely condemn these abominable housing conditions which incubate unnatural crime.

The Parson who Can.

That entering the ministry is not always the resource of men unable to earn a living at more mundane employment is proved by the Rev. William Birch, of All Saints', West Gorton, Manchester. Such is his skill at toy-designing that a London firm has offered him a post at £800 a year. Mr. Birch began life as a fitter in engineering shops, took holy orders later, and now for no money consideration will he leave the work he loves. He deserves the following among active young men that he has.

Threepence Well Spent.

Viscount Hambleden, presiding over the Hospital Savings Association annual meeting gave wonderful evidence of what can be done with pennies. For threepence a week contributors are covered against hospital, dental and optical expenses. Already the annual income of the affair is £120,000. Thrift pays.

Heartbreak House.

"I have no money, I cannot get work, nor sell the bike," was the message left to Mrs. E. Walters, Catherine Street, Carmarthen, by her husband, a despairing ex-Service man who threw himself into the sea at Mumbles. Deep as is the tragedy of unemployment, while there's life there's hope. To seek escape by suicide leaves loved ones not only with poverty, but a broken heart.

Fascist Fools.

It appears that the latest recruits to the rabble defence of law and order are the Unofficial British Fascists, some of whose members have been sending threatening letters to ladies associated with the "Arbitrate First" movement. It is time the police made a sharp example of one or two of these cowardly bullies whose scoundrelly "patriotism" is bringing the Constitution into contempt.

Set a Thief to——

Henry Francis Morris, of Pellatt Grove, Wood Green, has been fined at Tottenham £3 for attempting to obtain 9s. from the Ministry of Labour by false pretences. He represented himself as losing time on public duty when he was actually unemployed. What interests taxpayers is that Henry was a member of the panel of referees in "dole" cases. It shows them the type of man administering the funds they supply.

The Human Machine

The Danger Line

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

THERE is an old saying that "Enough is as good as a feast." Like most of our proverbs it is based on a very sound knowledge of the human mind.

It is a curious fact that mental opposites lie perilously close to one another. It needs very little to turn love into hate, to submerge enthusiasm under the dead weight of indifference, to tip the balance from faith to doubt, or to dissolve joy in the seething chaos of sorrow.

So few people know when they have had enough; so few people know when to stop! So few people balance their desires with the steadying influence of logical thought.

The fact is that when you are doing anything wholeheartedly you are more apt than at any other time to be unaware of your approach to the danger line because your senses and your sensibility are so completely under the control of your momentary enthusiasm.

Unless you are very careful you let your critical judgment go to sleep.

This is the time when the wise man keeps the firmest grip on the rudder of his mind, for he knows that if he lets it slip he will cross the danger line, and find himself adrift in an uncharted sea.

TEMPERANCE of thought and action is not in itself a virtue except in so far as any mental discipline is a virtue.

Its real value is to enhance the quality of the pleasure that preceded it, and anticipate the further pleasure that is to come.

Intemperance ends in being satiated, and satiety spells boredom. To realise this is to turn the danger line into a line of safety.

Teaching 'Em.

In future, all persons taking out or renewing motor-drivers' licences will be supplied with a book of safety rules and instructions. It is compiled by the National Safety First Association, assisted by every important motoring organisation in the country. A simple move that should have been made long ago.

Hero of Healing.

Despite the fact that other early X-ray experimenters were being crippled, Mr. Reginald Blackall went on with his work at the London Hospital. He paid the penalty first with his hands and now with his life, but he lived to see the way made safe for other radiographers. His devotion enabled thousands of sick and injured hospital patients to be safely operated upon. He gave his life for others.

Toll of Peace.

The R.A.F. death roll for the year averages a life a week, and the Air Ministry is hurrying the supply of parachutes for all machines. The Air Service, like the Submarine Service, has to take risks, and the mere fact that the Air Ministry is in a panic to get parachutes shows that the officials have failed to take adequate measures to guard against such risks. Parachutes are older than aeroplanes.

"As We Forgive Them."

"Ma" Ferguson, the woman governor of Texas, is threatened with the loss of her position because she pardoned ninety-seven criminals on Thanksgiving Day. Answering her critics Governor Ferguson retorts that a large-hearted compassion is, or ought to be, woman's special contribution to public life. It is not easy to see how a Christian community can quarrel with this point of view.

Husband's Chivalry.

It is to be hoped that Mrs. Doris Woolhouse, of Maltby, Yorks, now realises that her husband is worthy of better treatment than to have salts of lemon put in his tea. Charged with this terrible offence at the Leeds Assizes, Mrs. Woolhouse might have fared badly but for her husband's chivalrous refusal to give evidence against her which might have secured conviction. Whatever domestic faults the man may have had, this fine gesture should atone for all.

Frittered a Fortune.

Guilty of frauds on bookmakers, bound over on condition he left the country in three weeks, Douglas Evelyn Kingsby Huntley, at Westminster Court, provided a sorry object-lesson. Educated at Harrow and Cambridge, Huntley inherited a fortune of £150,000. He squandered the whole with crooks and cardsharpers and rotters who lived on him. "No legacy is so rich as honesty," nor will money lift a man who will not lift himself by character.

Blood on the Coal.

Entombed for three and a half days without food or drink, and with his fellow-worker killed beside him, John William Poole, an elderly miner in the Wath Main Colliery, Yorkshire, through superhuman efforts of rescuers was at length brought up alive. Thousands of tons of coal and earth had to be shifted before he was reached. Human endeavour, death and endurance—this is the epic of the mines about which grave decisions must soon be reached.

Love's Sacrifice Supreme.

Among the nation's greater heroines must be inscribed the name of Mrs. Abberley, of Shalford, Surrey. When the motor-cycle that injured her husband burst in flames in her cottage she rushed out with her own clothes a mass of fire. Pushing off a constable who ran to her aid, she cried, "I am burnt to death, but never mind me. Get the children." So she died while he saved them. They will never forget the heroic mother to whom they owe their lives.

he Other Sinner.

"The best way to reduce the death-rate amongst legitimate children is," in the opinion of Miss Helen Newill and of others, "to reduce the illegitimate birth-rate." And it would be done had men to suffer as their victims do—the agonies of a broken heart because of a broken marriage pledge.

A Depraved Mother.

It is impossible to feel satisfied with a sentence of twelve months' imprisonment for a woman depraved enough to connive at the ruin of her thirteen-year-old daughter. When Annie Parrott was thus dealt with at Winchester, Mr. Justice Rowlatt expressed regret that he had no power to deprive the woman of the custody of her younger children. Truly a monstrous state of the law.

Sweet and Bitter.

For certain small dealings in saccharine which had not paid the proper Customs duty, James Ramsay was at Bow Street fined £1,071, with the alternative of three months' imprisonment. This huge monetary penalty, which left the accused no option but to go to jail, represented treble the value of saccharine and duty. In such cases the law should allow magistrates to impose a reasonable fine.

Slave-driven Youngsters.

The death through a crane accident of Henry Ellis, a fourteen-year-old boy employed in the construction of a new dock, at Bromborough, raises the painful question of the excessive hours worked by many lads in their teens. At the inquest on Ellis it was stated that at Bromborough some of these boys had been at work for twenty-six hours on end. There is a law to punish these abuses. Why not enforce it?

Two Cowardly Skunks.

When the ice cracked two unknown cowards, idly leaning upon a Burnley bridge, saw young Edward Jackson plunged to his death in the waters of a lodge close by. "Help!" the cry rang out from his terrified companion. But instead of readily responding to the call, the skunks slunk off, one of them remarking, "The water's too cold." Christmas for such cowards should be one of haunting memories when they remember the vacant chair in Jackson's home.

Ignorant Ideas.

Thousands of homeless men, beaten by industrial conditions, will unfortunately be compelled to spend the coming Christmas 'neath the shelter of a Poor-law institution, possibly for the first time. To these poor creatures, teetotal busybodies, such as Mrs. Dunkersley, of Huddersfield, would deny the comfort of a glass of English ale on Christmas Day. The bigots' mistaken idea is that all in our poor-houses are drink's victims, which shows how little of life they know.

"Tableau Vivant."

The British film experts concocted a scheme whereby they hoped to make it compulsory that a fixed quota of home-made pictures should be screened in every cinema in the land. But no, distorted the proprietors, British films are too bad. In a word, the position is just this: the makers of pictures, sitting at one side of a table, beg of the exhibitors, seated at the other—"Give us the market and we will give you the pictures." "Nay, first produce the goods, and the market is yours to command," is the reply. Meanwhile hundreds of capable mummers draw the "dole."

A Foundry Fatality.

We are appalled at the circumstances surrounding the death of a sixteen-year-old apprentice, Albert Vincent, who died as a result of burns sustained in an accident at a Thetford foundry. He was carrying a ladle containing forty pounds of molten metal from a furnace to the moulds, a distance of twenty yards, and scalded his foot. At the inquest it was stated that boys frequently carried heavier loads! The practice of transferring molten metal in hand ladles is necessarily a dangerous one, and it is scandalous that such duties should be entrusted to young boys.

Another Police Blunder.

Contrary to the Home Secretary's specific instructions, Harold and George Haddock, when arrested by the Featherstone police, were not told they could communicate with their friends. When one of them asked about bail, he was told by P.C. Lee that he was not in a fit condition to be released. In court the men were set free, but the matter cannot rest there. The Home Secretary must teach Featherstone's police their duty.

Tinkering with Eyesight.

A rascal, describing himself as Jean Edwards, whose real name is John Greaf, has been operating in Yorkshire as an "eye specialist" trickster. Although he had no qualifications, he engaged halls, professed to examine the sight of afflicted people, and swindled them by inducing them to pay for spectacles which they never received. At Normanton he had business premises, furnished with a paper-covered soap box; now he has others as one of His Majesty's guests.

A "Home Work" Ramp.

Poynton Mills, of Cornhill, Poynton, Cheshire, is the latest philanthropic concern offering to teach people how to earn a good income in their spare time by carrying out simple work at home. Frankly, we are not at all impressed by the reproduction of a factory with numerous smoking chimneys, which appears on this firm's circulars. The phrasing of the circular itself is very familiar, and as it winds up with the usual request for a p.o. for 2s. as a preliminary fee, we advise our readers to look upon it with disfavour.

Bayliss' Bluff.

We recently wrote to the bookmaking firm of J. O. Bayliss & Co. on behalf of a St. Helens reader who complained that he was unable to obtain his winnings from them. They replied to the effect that they were withholding his account because their report of him was unsatisfactory, and because he had previously been in default himself. This our reader strongly denies and the fact that Bayliss & Co. still pester him with the object of inducing him to place further bets with them speaks for itself. Such bluffing bookmakers are best left alone!

Two Years Late!

Two years ago, a Lenham reader answered an advertisement in the *Christian World* which called for a partner with some capital. He heard nothing at all until the other day, when he received a letter from the advertiser stating that the business, which was not "ready for working at the time of advertising," is now in a "going condition." He is offered a decent job at a fair wage on condition that he has "some money to put in," but as the writer—Mr. H. Smith, of 196, Capworth Street, Leyton—makes no mention of the nature of his business, we would advise our reader to let this two-years-late offer slide.

A Flourishing Fraud.

A fee-snatching concern known as Home Competitions (India) Syndic., of 136, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta, would appear to be in a flourishing condition. We made some warning comments earlier in the year, and a reader has now forwarded copies of the elaborate circulars which the firm are still issuing. For fees ranging from ten rupees to ninety rupees, the Home Competitions (India) Syndic. undertake to control client's entries in respect of competitions in home publications. But as clients have no control over the "Syndic," it should be left severely alone.

"JOHN BULL"
THE WORLD'S GREATEST FREE INSURANCE GIFT
See page 2.

Problems of Life

The Last Five Minutes

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

WHAT does it feel like to face death? There are a few privileged persons, like the late Dr. Clifford, who get no warning, but simply slip quietly away like falling asleep. They are spared both physical suffering and mental perturbation. It is those they leave behind who get the shock: they themselves know nothing about it.

The Late Dr. Clifford

This is a happy way to die. It is what I should like myself when the final summons comes.

Perhaps the majority of human beings leave the world as calmly and sweetly, though it may not seem so.

As far as my observation goes—and I have had plenty of opportunity of forming a judgment—not many people exhibit fear or distress in their last moments. The dying seldom seem to realise fully what is taking place. They are more or less in a dreamy condition even if conscious, which frequently they are not.

I mean that a person in the last stage of mortal illness is hardly ever in a normal everyday state of mind. He may know everyone round him and all about what is happening, but somehow, like Livingstone in the jaws of the lion, he is untroubled thereby.

It is different when death by deliberate violence has to be met in the plenitude of one's vitality and strength.

A RELATIVE of mine who fought through the worst of the War tells me that the bravest of the men he knew were never indifferent to the prospect of being killed. They usually preserved a demeanour of calm and self-control, but they were inwardly shaken and apprehensive.

"The last five minutes before going over the top," he said, "were worse by far than the actual fighting. May I never experience the like again!"

What a fearful ordeal must have been that of Edith Cavell as she was led out in the grey dawn to look her last on life! Let no one say, let no one think, that the most intrepid soul on earth to-day could pass through a similar experience without a tremor. Summon all your resolution as you may, it would fill you with horror unspeakable.

THOSE poor boys who were buried alive in their submarine tomb recently had to know this horror in all its stark malignity. We may be sure they met it well, but it could not be other than dreadful to their stout young hearts.

Our consolation must ever be that the terrors of death are in the imagination only. Our shrinking is from the unknown. In reality death is as natural as birth—with this difference, that we are no longer unconscious infants, but children of a larger growth waking to a fuller and more wonderful life.

MAIL ORDER MARRIAGES

LURES FOR LONELY WOMEN

The Murder Mart

ASTOUNDING disclosures have just been made in the Press in connection with the trial of the notorious bigamist, Patrick Moran, who for the past five years has reaped an income of £1,200 by despoiling his women victims.

It was estimated that he had been in touch with over a thousand women—many of whom he had seduced in addition to robbing them of their life's savings.

Now, these disclosures should bring home to the public the fact that the matrimonial agency menace is a very real one, and that the criticisms we have levied against such institutions in the past have been fully justified.

It is certain that Moran could never have secured such a host of victims had it not been for the facilities granted by matrimonial agencies and newspapers which specialise in matrimonial advertisements.

A publication entitled *Cupid's Chronicle* was mentioned as the medium through which this wretch first got into touch with many of the women whom he ultimately ruined.

A serious responsibility

Why was this scoundrel given these facilities? His record is an unsavoury one, for he has served long terms of imprisonment for embezzlement, double bigamy and frauds. Those responsible for introducing innocent women to a blackguard of this character have much to answer for.

This case is a particularly bad one, but it is by no means isolated. At a sensational murder trial some little time back it was disclosed that the murderer had become acquainted with his victim through the medium of a matrimonial agency.

His sole object had been to obtain possession of the woman's money, and when this was exhausted he quickly tired of her. For a time he ill-treated her shamefully, and at last, desiring to rid himself of his victim, he murdered her in cold blood.

That poor woman's death must surely be laid at the door of the agency which first introduced her to such an unspeakable fiend.

Dangerous advertisements

We recall another unhappy case where an Englishwoman went out to Canada to join a man whose acquaintance she had first made through a similar medium. She ultimately became his wife, but as soon as her money was all gone the rogue deserted her.

She was left stranded in a strange land, friendless and penniless—thanks again to the good offices of a matrimonial agency.

There is a monthly publication known as the *Matchmaker*, which is simply packed with advertisements on behalf of men and women who desire partners. Of these advertisements, a certain class must be singled out as being decidedly dangerous.

We refer to cases where bachelors state their desire to enter into matrimony with women who "preferably have some capital."

Any of these men may have a record equally as black as Moran's, yet how can the editor of this publication safeguard himself on this point? How can he possibly satisfy himself that the intentions of his advertisers are strictly honourable?

It is clear that nothing of a man's character can be judged from a photograph, or even in an interview, and references are not satisfactory, since they can be faked with ease.

Another most unsavoury aspect of the matter is that many of the advertisers in these publications are of foreign extraction.

Here the great danger lies in the fact that if matrimony ensues the woman loses her nationality and may one day be forced to leave the land of her birth.

We have already mentioned the sad plight of one woman who was lured to Canada. How much worse must be the plight of any unfortunate woman stranded in a foreign land.

There are several institutions that have received criticism in the pages of JOHN BULL, notable amongst them being the Lonely Men and Women League, a concern run by a rascal with a shocking past record.

But, quite apart from these "specialists," matrimonial advertisements of an undesirable nature sometimes creep into the columns of respectable newspapers in London and the provinces.

What must be done

Now, to our mind the time is ripe for a full and searching enquiry into the whole question.

A first step would be to call upon advertising managers to exercise greater discretion in their acceptance of match-making advertisements—in fact, we think they would do well to reject them without compunction.

Meanwhile the activities of specialised publications and agencies should be considerably restricted. The present indiscriminate insertion of each and every application, without any thought of the possible consequences, must be stopped.

Taunted as a "Looney"

Education Committee's Harsh Action

"MY child, Winnie, is just turned seven years and through an accident which occurred five years ago she has constantly had to stay at home. Now for the simple and only reason that she is backward in her lessons the Hull Education Committee are forcing me to send her to the Malton Street Special School, a school for those mentally deficient."

This is an extract in a recent letter from Mrs. Cardwell, of 62, Lister Street, Hull. Fortunately, acting on our advice, Mrs. Cardwell was able to put a stop to the Education Committee's intentions.

* * *

Imagine the grief of any mother faced with such a demand. Imagine the grief of the child at the knowledge. Perhaps in future years some kindly Pharisee might have referred to the fact of the child having been mentally deficient, or possibly she might have gone through life attempting to live down the stigma of being a "looney."

Here is an honest, hard-working family and, though poor, the mother intended that her ewe lamb should have the best of advantages in education. The parents actually sent her to a Catholic school, but the Education Committee stopped the child going there.

* * *

With every instinct of motherhood roused and almost with her back to the wall, Mrs. Cardwell successfully battled against the heavy odds opposed to her.

It was no mean thing for this mother to face the ultimatum of her local education committee, but what mother placed in like circumstances would not have striven equally as hard to fight for the future of the child who was already handicapped in life by an accident at an early age?

Unfortunately, however, there may be other such cases in the country where the parents, just as loving as in this case, are not so successful. Surely it should be made impossible for an education authority on the flimsiest of excuses to perform such a heartless act.

It is almost incredible, but Mrs. Cardwell emphatically states that the education committee informed her that arrangements had been made for her child Winnie to attend this school for the mentally deficient without first of all consulting the parents. Also despite the fact that teachers and nurses alike stated that Winnie was not in any way mentally inferior to other children.

* * *

We hope that the attention of the Minister of Education will be drawn to this most irregular and high-handed proceeding of the Hull education authorities, and that the necessary steps will be taken to prevent any possible repetition of such a terrible injustice.

A Real "Rotter"

Victim Left to Face Music

A VERY astute and clever rogue, who induced a woman to commit a felony, and then ran away and left her to face the music alone, is at the present time at large. His name is Frank Clark, and his last address was in Eastcheap, London, E.C.

The woman in the case is Miss Edyth Knott, who, coming into an inheritance of £1,500 under the will of her father, opened a gown and lingerie business in Baker Street.

Possessing property which might involve her in serious losses if the premises were burgled, she took out a policy with the Northern Assurance Company.

A few months ago she got in touch with a firm in the City, and as a result the man Clark called upon her. Learning that she wanted a partner, he suggested that she should turn her business into a limited company.

The dual conspiracy

Clark turned out to be a rogue, who borrowed money from her, and who eventually induced the woman, whose business was landing her in financial difficulties, to go to a moneylender, and finally persuaded her to conspire with him to defraud the insurance company by pretending that her premises had been burgled.

When she was recently brought before Sir Robert Wallace at the London Sessions, on a charge of conspiring with Clark, Sir Robert described her as the victim of an astute and clever man who took advantage of the situation, and bound her over.

Clark has not been seen since he stood in the dock with the woman in the preliminary stages of the proceedings at the police court, having absconded while they were out on bail.

There can be nothing worse than the conduct of a man who, having led an inexperienced woman of hitherto irreproachable character into crime, endeavours to save his own skin by running away.

It is only by the kind and generous way in which Sir Robert Wallace dispensed justice in this case that this woman has not been sent to jail. But is the matter to end here?

Netting the small fry

Is Clark, the prime mover in this fraud, the scoundrel who planned the whole affair, to evade the consequences of his acts because the police have been unable to put him in the dock?

Lately, there have been far too many cases where, in frauds like this, the police have succeeded only in netting the small fry, and we hope that the Criminal Investigation Department of Scotland Yard, with all the resources it has at its command, will take special pains to find the elusive Clark, and compel him to stand his trial and receive the punishment he so richly deserves.

A New Tune

On a Very Old Fiddle

MOST people are familiar with an old trick played by sharpers at country fairs, in which a yokel is induced to purchase a worthless ring under the impression that a large reward has been offered for the recovery of same.

It is only when he finds that most of his fellow-villagers have purchased similar rings that he realises how he has been duped, and by that time the sharks are far away, busily counting up their profits.

This ancient swindle is now being attempted in a somewhat different form and on a far larger scale by our old friend The London Financial Service, Ltd., of 69, Fleet Street, E.C.4.

It is sending out circulars to people—many of whom have never had dealings with it before—inviting them to take up a new issue of preference shares.

By a most remarkable coincidence, the recipients of these circulars are also favoured with letters from people they have never heard of.

The tale that is told

Sometimes these letters arrive a day or two before the circulars, sometimes just after; but their purport is always the same.

The writers have read a "recent announcement" in the *Daily Telegraph* to the effect that The London Financial Service, Ltd., has declared a dividend of 300 per cent., and that it is proposed to increase the capital, to which only agents will be allowed to subscribe. They would like to secure some of these shares, and they write in the hope that a perfect stranger will sell them some of his.

The unwary may hasten to purchase shares, just as the yokels purchased rings, in the expectation of disposing of them immediately at a large profit—and we can confidently say that they will be "let in" in the same way.

We have issued warnings against The London Financial Service, Ltd., before, and if any further warning is necessary, the experience of a Worthing reader should suffice.

The man at the helm

In April, 1924, this gentleman paid The London Financial Service, Ltd., £105, on the understanding that it was to form a company for him, and to find £1,000 capital.

Failing this the company was to be converted into a public one free of charge; but up to now our reader has obtained no satisfaction whatever, whilst the London Financial Service, Ltd., holds on to his £105.

As we have pointed out in these pages before, the man behind this concern is one Mr. H. A. Ashton, who is a most notorious financial shark, with a very shady reputation.

In a long association with doubtful companies he has claimed countless victims, and it is scandalous that he should still be free to carry on at his old games.

A £50,000 GHOST STORY

MEDIUM'S CRUEL HOAX

A Rook Among the Spooks

THIS is not by any means the first time we have had occasion to refer to the remarkable career of F. Tansley Munnings, the medium. He is one of these parasitic growths which are inevitable upon any new trend of thought, such as spiritualism.

Our own investigations, and incidentally those of the police, have proved that if he is subject to spirit "influences," it is the mischievous spooks rather than the benevolent who have left their mark on his everyday character.

His arrest at Bournemouth for theft, and his subsequent sentence of nine months' hard labour for burglariously spiriting away the household effects of a Surrey woman who had invited him to give séances at her home, are known to our readers.

What happened at the seance

Posing as a genuine spiritualist, he perpetrated a cruel hoax a few weeks ago on a married couple from East Sheen, who had been led to believe that he enjoyed the confidence of the leaders of the movement.

They attended a séance held by Munnings at Gloucester House, Charing Cross Road, and duly paid the fee without which no communication could be expected with the other world.

It happens that the husband's brother disappeared years ago, leaving no trace as to his whereabouts. What more natural than that they should ask the medium Munnings to find out whether he was dead or alive?

That was an easy matter for Munnings. With very little palaver he was able to inform them that the missing man had become an American citizen, that he had joined the British Army in 1914, and that he had lately died at Mentone in the south of France, bequeathing to his brother, the man from East Sheen, a fortune of £50,000.

Munnings was even able to name some financial concerns with which the dead man had deposited money. They were the Société Générale, Monte Carlo, the Compagnie Algérienne, Mentone, and the Mentone branch of Thomas Cook and Son, the famous tourist agency.

F. T. Munnings

At a subsequent séance, further businesslike details were forthcoming. Munnings, doing what every sensible person ought to do in an emergency, consulted a solicitor about it. He had the advantage over the rest of us, in that he was not dependent on earthly members of the legal profession, who have an unfortunate weakness of charging fees.

The spook solicitor

At his command was "Robert Stephen Craig," a spook solicitor who had "passed over" and was now in the happy situation of being able to give advice free. "Robert Stephen Craig" was able to tell the legatee of the £50,000, through Munnings, just exactly what to do to obtain possession of the fortune.

He must entrust the affair to a person named Mackenzie, who would make the necessary enquiries at Mentone, and would instruct a firm of worldly solicitors with a mundane address in Chancery Lane.

The East Sheen couple were in the seventh heaven of delight. They felt that the acquisition of the £50,000 was only a matter of weeks.

At Munnings' suggestion they allowed him to give Mackenzie his instructions and were in due time informed that the gentleman had departed for Mentone.

One day they were told by Munnings to get ready to follow Mackenzie on a certain day, but departure was postponed at the last moment. Then followed a series of delays and excuses.

It happened that at the outset, the "legatees" had caused enquiries to be made at the financial concerns mentioned for details of the dead brother's deposits. They had also written to the Chancery Lane solicitors for word of Mackenzie.

Now came the replies. The banks had never heard of the dead brother, and Mackenzie was a stranger to the solicitor.

Munnings in a hurry

Someone in whom the East Sheen couple confided happened to be a reader of JOHN BULL. They were shown some of our previous comments on the career of Frederick Tansley Munnings.

They then realised how much credence they might put on his yarns about the £50,000, the ghostly solicitor, and "Mackenzie," the emissary to Mentone. They challenged Munnings to produce that latter person or even to give tangible proofs of his existence.

Munnings wrote instead some bleating letters in which he chided them for their lack of faith and protested his innocence. Most of these ended on a note of hurry. He was either "in haste," "in great haste," or "Yours very hastily."

He will be, one of these days, when his dupes get properly after him!

Quacks' Costly "Cures"

"Specialists'" Specious Spoof

A NUMBER of philanthropic people are operating from an office in Premier House, 150, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, and by a most singular coincidence their methods are all much about the same.

In the first place we have Charles Stafford, who describes himself as a specialist in rheumatism and all uric acid complaints. For £1, he offers to supply sufferers from rheumatism with a "complete six weeks' course of tablets and liniment, with valuable instructions as to diet."

He issues a pamphlet of glowing testimonials, with pictures of life-long sufferers throwing away their crutches or breaking them across their knees. He insists that his remedy cures, and invites all sufferers to give it a fair trial.

Now, this man is not a doctor, and, according to the British Medical Council, he is entirely without medical qualification of any description. He has also been denounced by the Medical Defence Union as a quack.

Another of the self-styled "specialists" at Premier House is one Cynthia Stafford, whose particular line is "Eastern Toilet Specialties." This lady, whose relationship to Charles is uncertain, claims to have offices in Paris and New York.

She may well afford to, since she charges 12s. 6d. a bottle for her "famous prescription, 'Wrinkola!' guaranteed the finest and most successful preparation ever made for the quick and certain banishing of wrinkles, lines, crow's-feet, and unsightly puckers."

Then we have John Stanley, who represents himself as a specialist in the cure of another ailment, and also states that he discovered his remedy after ten years of suffering.

Stanley claims to have cured hundreds of cases besides his own, but he has "made it his rule never to publish the names and addresses of ladies and gentlemen who have been cured" by his treatment!

His treatment, he declares, usually lasts eight weeks, and the full fee is a guinea; but he is willing to give the first seven days free and to knock off 3s. 6d.—"Thus you obtain the full eight weeks' course for 17s. 6d. instead of 21s."

He does not say why he is ready to reduce his fees, but he makes it quite clear that he wishes the 17s. 6d. forwarded "as soon as possible."

Untold harm may result where ignorant people submit themselves to the treatment of unqualified quacks, and that three very doubtful "specialists" should be operating from one address is a matter which calls for some enquiry.

THE FLYING AERODROME

WAGES THAT WENT WEST

Company's Amazing Venture

WE would like to know if any action has been taken on the Official Receiver's opinion "that further enquiry is desirable in regard to the conduct of the business and affairs of Douglas Hollis (Howden), Limited."

This company, which went into liquidation about a year ago, was registered in January, 1924. Having a trifling capital of £100, it was destined to become possessed of the entire buildings, plant and machinery of the great Howden airship station, which had come under the Government axe.

On February 2, 1924, three days after it was formed, various debentures were issued totalling £57,000. The principal debenture-holders were Chalmers, Gutherie & Co., Ltd., 9, Idol Lane, London, E.C., with £38,500, and Messrs. W. Lockwood and J. Wildsmith, of Barnsley, with £16,000.

In October of the same year, the company purchased from Wildsmith and Lockwood, the twin airship shed at Howden, with all the existing plant and material for a sum of £30,000. A day later they disposed of the property to a concern called the Airship Guarantee Co., for £59,000, making a very handsome profit.

Bagging the lot!

After certain deductions, a sum of £21,000 remained, which from the books appears to have gone towards payment of some of the debentures.

On December 2, Douglas Hollis (Howden) were forced into liquidation by the other debenture holders, Mr. Lockwood of Wildsmith and Lockwood, being appointed receiver on their behalf.

When the Official Receiver in bankruptcy came in, he found assets of £28,475, and, of course, sundry creditors who would have liked to have a share of those assets.

But the debenture holders, through Mr. Lockwood, claimed the lot, and there was not a penny left for the ordinary creditors.

We are hardly surprised that the Official Receiver for this evanescent company with the microscopic capital should suggest an enquiry. The relationship between Wildsmith and Lockwood and Douglas Hollis (Howden), Ltd., is mystifying.

The labourer's hire

The former acquire a debenture on the assets of the latter for a large sum. Later they sell them an airship shed which is re-sold at a large profit.

Then when the crash comes Lockwood and Wildsmith, with the other debenture-holders, take everything available and leave not only the ordinary creditors out in the cold, but employees.

Two of the latter were rendered penniless in the process.

Mr. Arthur Robert Reid and Mr. Arthur Burnie, two highly skilled workmen had been employed by Douglas Hollis (Howden), Ltd., for the dismantling work.

They were on a piece-work basis, and at the time of the liquidation of the company had allowed their accounts to run until they were jointly owed £327 10s. for wages.

In a letter dated June 8, 1925, the Official Receiver at Hull stated: "It would appear that wages are payable in priority to debentures, assuming, of course, that the wages are payable by the company."

On December 9, 1924, Mr. J. F. Thomasson, chairman of Douglas Hollis (Howden), Ltd., writing from 9, Idol Lane, which by the way is the address of the first debenture-holders, states in the course of a letter to Messrs. Reid and Burnie: "In view of the prior nature of your claim I do not think that there will be any difficulty in your obtaining payment of what is due."

But, despite all their efforts and that of their solicitor, these unfortunate men have only received a paltry £10 each, which was paid them on September 18, 1924, before liquidation.

Had they been ordinary creditors they would have been unfortunate enough. But the money represented bread and butter. They were engaged by Douglas Hollis (Howden), Limited, who paid their employment insurance and health insurance and had them covered under the Employers' Liability Act.

It certainly seems to be a scandalous thing and a crying shame that these honest British workmen should be done out of their hard-earned wages, a question of a few hundreds, while the estimated assets, running into thousands, are paid over to the debenture-holders.

Bitter thoughts

On behalf of Mr. Burnie and his unfortunate fellow-sufferer, we wrote two letters, one on October 20 and the other on November 11 last, to Mr. Lockwood with reference to their case. So far he has not seen fit to reply.

Meanwhile one of these skilled workmen has had to accept a job shovelling coke for a gas company. His reflections on the intricacies of the company laws are interesting to hear!

Sleeping with a Corpse

Appalling Housing Conditions

INVESTIGATIONS by our Special Commissioner have revealed the fact that conditions prevailing in the slum areas of Bristol are of an appalling nature.

In Philadelphia Street, Penn Street, Gloucester Lane and neighbouring alleyways in Bristol, families are herded together in squalid, dismal dwellings which are altogether unfit for habitation.

A six-roomed house in Philadelphia Street was found to contain no fewer than thirty-nine people. A room in the basement, twelve feet square, with damp streaming down the walls, constitutes the "home" of a family of six, and a new arrival is expected!

* * *

A few doors away, a widow and three children occupy a single room. Her husband died quite recently, and for three nights she and her children slept in bed with the dead body.

In Penn Street there is a house of seven rooms, into which fifty people are crowded, and houses of six rooms with thirty or more occupants.

* * *

There is considerable traffic in this quarter—particularly in Philadelphia Street. This street is barely twelve yards wide, and as it is paved with cobble stones, the passage of even a light lorry frequently shakes pictures from the walls, if the tenants are fortunate enough to have any, and the houses tremble. Two buildings recently collapsed and others are noticeably leaning.

Three months ago the residents petitioned the council and asked for a better road-surface, but so far nothing has been done in the matter.

Yet the roads in the better-class neighbourhoods of Bristol and those leading to Durdham Downs are being improved.

As regards the condition of the houses, the inhabitants have no redress from their landlords, who shelter behind sub-landlords, who in turn shelter behind agents.

If they complain they are told to get out. There are always other tenants because of terrible housing shortage.

The rents mostly range from 2s. to 6s. a week; but it is no uncommon thing to meet a tenant who is paying as much as 13s. a week for two horrible underground rooms that are in a state of utter disrepair.

* * *

The moral effect of this terrible overcrowding in such sordid surroundings is too ghastly to be described, and how the Bristol Corporation can shut its eyes from these evils, whilst expending £40,000 on the purchase of Blaise Castle Woods as a holiday-haunt, is a question which only it can answer.

Sharing a Fortune

A Book that was Closed

AN advertisement calling for a principal in a paying business, which appeared in the *Daily Herald*, has brought disaster to a York reader.

Applying for further particulars, he received a reply from Mr. Douglas Jones, of 15, Kinver Road, Peak Hill, Sydenham, who informed him that he had a system that presented a "thoroughly sound and really splendid paying method of turf investment."

Mr. Jones further stated that he had been making 500 per cent. profit by his system since he started, but far from keeping his good fortune to himself, he was willing to share it with others.

He was prepared to guarantee a regular weekly income of £3 to any one who cared to invest £50 with him. Moreover, capital could be withdrawn on demand.

Our reader was just a little bit dubious, but, as Mr. Jones offered to have an agreement drawn up through his solicitors, he was finally persuaded to pay over £50.

The dwindling dividend

An agreement was actually prepared, under which Jones undertook to pay a weekly dividend of £3 and to return the full amount of the capital whenever he should be called upon to do so.

It is a great pity that our reader did not seek our advice before parting with his money, for we should most certainly have warned him of the risk he was running.

At the end of the first week he received his dividend promptly, and began to feel quite secure. The second week's money was also paid, but when the third week had elapsed it was not forthcoming.

Our reader wrote to Mr. Jones, who put him off with a trifling excuse, and when another week passed without producing a "dividend" our reader began to grow anxious. Thereafter he wrote again and again only to be put off with various excuses.

Making a fresh start

At last Mr. Jones sent a letter to say that he had been ill for some weeks and as a result his business had gone smash. By way of consolation he added the remark that "there is always the great chance of loss in betting. Many reliable men who make a book have to close." He further added that he was "starting again" and would pay back interest and capital when he had recovered himself.

The tone of this letter is very different to the one in which Mr. Jones glowingly described his 50 per cent. profit-winning system.

We are afraid that our reader will get little satisfaction out of Mr. Jones. He may make a fresh start, but it will probably be with £50 secured from some fresh dupe.

Tattoo Tattle

Commissions and Omissions

IN our issue of November 28 we exposed the past history of a gentleman named Mr. Montgomery Sylvester, whose latest scheme for obtaining money is the organising of a Touring Torchlight Tattoo.

In order to create confidence in the mind of the public, Mr. Sylvester decided that it would be better if he called himself Mr. T. Montgomery.

Further interesting facts are to hand in a preliminary prospectus recently issued. This pamphlet lays out in glowing terms the profits to be derived from investment, but paints the expenditure in rather false colours.

Take an extract: "Taking forty-five weeks in the year, with a profit of £13,000, the total amount is £585,000. Having deducted working expenses —including administrative expenses for seven weeks, during which period it is proposed to grant leave, say, £6,000—a clear profit of £543,000 is left. Deducting the original capital of £100,000, a balance of £443,000 is shown."

Weak-kneed chargers

After all deductions are made there is still a balance of £324,000. From this—so Mr. Montgomery states—he magnanimously proposes to devote 50 per cent. to charity, leaving a balance of £162,125 for the purposes of further dividends.

A strange anachronism in this prospectus is the allocation of £400 for the purchasing of uniforms for twenty-five cavalrymen, while £100 is all that is considered necessary for sixty artillerymen.

Mr. Montgomery proposes to buy "casters" from the Army to mount the cavalrymen and pull the guns. Whilst a "caster" from the Army might be an excellent animal to draw a huckster's cart, we question its adaptability to be used in a tattoo, even after training by so great a horse master as Mr. Montgomery.

A wo derful show

Any mounted soldier knows that the equipping of a battery of artillery and a troop of cavalry is expensive, and that a great deal depends on the fitting of harness and of saddlery, of which no mention is made. When this was pointed out to Mr. Montgomery, he pooh-poohed it and described Army methods as old-fashioned.

If this tattoo ever sees the light of day, its first public performance will undoubtedly be a unique experience for the spectators.

According to the prospectus, there will be cavalry charges barebacked, in which men will use rifles, driving drill displays by the artillery, with horses pulling guns without harness, and most impressive marching and countermarching by bands in which the musicians, unless they provide their own instruments, will be mute.

Since the appearance of our article on November 28 the working board composed of ex-officers of the Army and Navy has resigned. We strongly advise our readers not to invest money in any affair organised by Mr. T. Montgomery Sylvester.

BLUFFER'S BRAZEN BOUNCE

HOBDAY HITS SOME HIGH SPOTS

An Impecunious Company Promoter

TO go through life with a smile, living for the most part in magnificence and luxury, smoking the best cigars and drinking the best wine, driving about in motor-cars and being always elegantly attired is the habit of an extremely enterprising gentleman named Harold George Hobday, who lives in the Prince of Wales Terrace, Kensington.

Now this sort of thing is quite all right, and is above criticism of any sort if you are enabled to do it by your own financial resources.

But it is open to the gravest criticism if you do it by letting your creditors down, and by letting them down both deliberately and consistently. That is the charge we make against Mr. Hobday.

Bamboozle and bounce

Mr. Hobday is a man with little money of his own. He has plenty of bounce, however, and contrives by his sheer audacity and plausibility to bamboozle people by it. He has staggered from one financial crash to another and is a familiar figure in the Bankruptcy Court.

He has been connected with all kinds of financial schemes, and, although he did himself very well out of them at other people's expense, his companies have mostly gone into liquidation with heavy liabilities.

Hobday would appear to have a disease for forming companies, and it is a significant fact that he had a transaction with Gerald Lee Bevan, the financial magnate now doing seven years' penal servitude, concerning shares sold to him in connection with which transfer Hobday received a commission of £21,000.

When one company went bankrupt and Hobday had faced the ordeal in the Bankruptcy Court, it did not deter him from forming another. His last bankruptcy was adjudicated about a year ago. He had liabilities of £51,424 and net assets valued at £883.

At this time he admitted quite frankly that company after company formed by him had gone bankrupt with heavy liabilities and the evidence showed quite clearly that he was a financier who entered light-heartedly upon tremendous projects with little thought for the investors.

Harold George Hobday

A few days ago Mr. Hobday entered the Bankruptcy Court once more, this time to apply for his discharge. We do not understand his optimism, since the report of the trustees in bankruptcy disclosed the fact that Hobday's apparent total indebtedness was £29,780.

A menace to the public

In addition to this, there were further claims in respect of one of Hobday's concerns exceeding £20,000, alleged to have been improperly received by Hobday from certain of the companies he was associated with.

Then came the illuminating fact that against all this vast sum of money owed, Hobday had put forward assets that realised the insignificant sum of £780.

We are glad that he did not get his immediate discharge, although we do not think this will seriously affect the cynical attitude of this financial genius. His discharge from bankruptcy was suspended for four years, during which time his activities will, of course, be somewhat restricted.

This is what the Registrar said of Hobday when he recently, as we have already stated, applied for his discharge: "He has made his living by company promoting, and an impecunious company promoter is a danger to the public."

It is not long ago that this man, already in the hands of the Bankruptcy Court, was busy taking a show about the provinces called "Cabaret Calling!" He did very well out of this, but its career was marked with the same sort of thing in which Hobday excels, and finally the company he had formed to run it went into liquidation.

The law that is weak

We are for ever pointing out the wicked laxity of the law which permits a promoter like this to walk straight from the Bankruptcy Court to Somerset House for the purpose of registering a new company with which to carry on future exploits.

We do not know what Hobday will do next. But it is clear that his financial record is one which gives the public no encouragement to trust him, and he should therefore be watched very closely.

We have called insistently for an amendment of the whole law relating to company registration. Until some amendment is made, people like Hobday will continue to "make their living" by company promoting.

The Pirate Curate

Did Ella Wheeler Wilcox write the Psalms?

A READER has forwarded to us a little volume of poems which is the most interesting we have read for some time. It is entitled "The Game of Life," and the author is given as the Rev. Louis A. Ewart, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society.

On the opening page we are informed that "copies of this little book have been graciously accepted by" the King, the Queen, the Prince of Wales, Princess Mary, the Duke of Connaught, and several distinguished public men, including the late and present Prime Ministers.

* * *

Earl Beatty is quoted as saying: "I have read the poems with interest and they will be a delightful addition to my small library." Let us add that they will likewise be a "delightful addition" to our very large library of queer publications.

Take, for example, some verses entitled "Wishing," of which the opening lines are:

"Do you wish the world were better?
Let me tell you what to do:
Set a watch upon your actions,
Keep them always straight and true."

Or that one beginning:

"Smile a little, smile a little,
As you go along;
Not alone when life is pleasant,
But when things go wrong."

* * *

On reading the above we did smile a little, for we recognised two items in "The Game of Life" as works of the late Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Glancing further through the book, we found the items "Be a Friend" and "Grit" to be word for word the same as two poems by Edgar A. Guest, published some time ago.

Then if another of the works, "A Hand on Your Shoulder" is not by James Whitcombe Riley, the author of "The Game of Life" ought to claim the laurels awarded to that American poet for his peculiar gifts.

As it is an unusual thing for clergymen to publish under their own name the works of other writers, we caused enquiries to be made. It was learned that the book resulted in some unpleasantness in the parish of Hagley, Worcestershire, where the Rev. Louis A. Ewart was curate, and that he has since resigned.

* * *

Earlier in his career he held the curacy of St. Cuthbert's, Birmingham, but resigned there also.

Now he has cropped up in a North London church, and is "honorary organising secretary" for the "British Christian Evidence and Gospel Protestant Association." Their motto, we note, is "The Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible."

We trust that it will not be our unhappy lot to discover that Ella Wheeler Wilcox is the real author of some of the Psalms!

A SLIPPERY TRIO

LONG-FIRM ROGUES AT LARGE

Men who Laugh at the Law

WE have constantly exposed the detestable type of trader who, taking advantage of the lax company laws, obtains goods on credit from honest manufacturers, disposes of them below cost in competition with honest dealers, and finally avoids his liabilities by going bankrupt.

This form of fraud has now grown to such an extent that the Federation of British Industries has formed a bureau to safeguard honest traders by supplying them with information respecting all firms that are considered unreliable.

In many cases traders have been misled by faked references presented by swindlers, and one of the most difficult tasks before the bureau will be the investigation of such references.

But it has started well. It has already discovered that a man with many aliases has been found trading in thirty-two different places under thirty-two different names.

This is a step in the right direction, but drastic amendments of the laws and the strong co-operation of the police are needed if successful warfare is to be waged. It is true that numerous offenders have been sent to jail, but in most cases they are mere pawns in the game, whilst the real criminals remain at large.

A cheating company

A wicked case of conspiracy centres around the activities of a man named Harry Slackman, a twenty-one-year-old rascal who has just been sent to prison for six months, whilst his brother Raphael and a person named Eric Levy, who were the leading lights in the conspiracy, have escaped.

A man named Albert Bird, who had two tobacco shops, was approached by Levy, who suggested that the business should be converted into a limited company. Bird agreed, and there is no doubt at all that Levy's sole intention was to cheat traders induced to do business with the company.

Bird was completely in Levy's hands, and the latter at once proceeded to order huge supplies of tobacco and cigarettes. As soon as they were delivered, Levy had them taken away in vans and stored in the office of the two Slackmans at Aldgate.

£11,000 worth of goods was obtained in this way without being paid for, and after many complaints had been lodged with the police the Slackman brothers were arrested, but allowed out on bail.

Left in the lurch

Levy managed to elude the police, and when the time came for both the Slackmans to stand their trial, the elder brother deserted the younger and left him to face the music alone.

We think, in view of the fact that a gigantic fraud has been perpetrated here, that the police should not be content with the apprehension of the least offender. They should get on the track of Raphael Slackman and Eric Levy without delay. Both these rogues have been involved in a good many other swindles.

Another case of a similar nature is that of a Russian rogue, Israel Doransky, who has carried on business in Victoria Park Road, Hackney, for some time as a blouse and robe manufacturer. He also obtained goods from various firms without paying for them.

He gave a post-dated cheque for £75 to one firm at a date when he was very well aware that his bank balance was only £5. This rascal got off with the comparatively light sentence of three months' imprisonment in the second division.

Then we have Mr. Julius Jonas who, being an undischarged bankrupt and unable to trade in his own name, started a limited company known as Colonial Indents, Ltd. Under this guise he was enabled to perpetrate the same gross fraud of obtaining goods on credit, knowing full well that he would never be able to pay for them.

To assist him in the registration of this swindling company he engaged a youth of twenty, whom he made a nominal "director." The company had no banking account!

We might go on citing instances of this sort, and we have every sympathy for the Federation of British Industries in their endeavour to combat this growing evil. We shall be only too pleased to lend them our full dossiers, which we feel would be of service to them in regard to the establishment of their bureau.

But we would again emphasise the urgent necessity for an amendment of the law. Last year the number of bankruptcies was greater than in any year—except 1923—since the pre-war period. There were nearly 7,000 as a matter of fact, and the liabilities approached a total of seventeen millions!

Thriving on bankruptcy

How many of these cases were sheer fraud it is difficult to say; but the fact remains that there are many rogues who thrive on bankruptcy and who are still free.

It is only a month or so ago that we told the story of Leone Tauber, who was concerned in a City fur robbery and who disappeared in much the same way as Slackman did, and is still at large.

We suggest that it is a job for the police not only to trace Tauber and bring him to book, but also to find Slackman and his confederate in crime, Eric Levy.

From Last to First

Cobbler Wins 2,000 Guineas

THERE are only three thousand people in the quiet little town of Bakewell, Derbyshire, and all but one of them seemed excited about the news that *Bullets* biggest First Prize of 2,000 Guineas had been won by a local competitor.

That one was the winner, Mr. A. Stubbs, whom our representative found in his tiny little shop in Granby Road, where he spends his days mending Bakewell's boots and shoes.

* * *

"Come along up to my house on the hillside and see my wife and family," he said. "They'll be as pleased to see you as I am. But I'm not the man to lose my head about my big prize. In fact, when your telegram came, I just slipped home to tell my wife about it and then came back to finish my day's work at the shop. People still want their boots and shoes, whatever may happen."

Walking up the steep hill to his home, Mr. Stubbs told of two or three years of perseverance on the still steeper *Bullets* hill, at the top of which he has found so large a pot of gold. "A few 'Targets' have come my way before," he summed up his meagre experience as a prize-winner, "but nothing in the way of cash."

* * *

More than once, before Mr. Stubbs' house was reached, friends crossed the road to congratulate him on his success, which seemed to have been broadcast all over the town.

"Everybody knows me here," he explained, "so that now *Bullets* has provided the capital, I shall be able to move into a bigger shop and more than double my business."

His eye caught sight of a button lying in the road and he slipped it in his pocket—a trifling action which seemed typical of the quiet philosophy of this man who had just won a fortune.

By a roaring fire in the little kitchen of the winner's home, Mrs. Stubbs spoke cheerily of the patience which has brought her husband his success, and of the modest manner in which she is going to celebrate it. "I've been promised a really good gramophone for weeks," she said delightedly, "and now I'm going to get it!"

* * *

Mr. Stubbs has gained more by his *Bullets* First than ever he could have earned with his last. If you would like to be in his shoes, turn your attention to *Bullets* on page 43 and win one of the big prizes offered this week.

The Nation's Shame

Neglected War Hero

AN old soldier, William Henry Saunders, has just died in the Frome Road House Infirmary at Bath in circumstances which call for some enquiry. He was a pensionless war hero, and his death leaves a widow and three children entirely unprovided for.

This man served his country all through the South African campaign, in which he contracted enteritis, and when the call came in 1914, he immediately re-enlisted and was passed as fit. He again contracted enteritis, however, and after his discharge suffered continually.

For some months he lay in Bath Pensions Hospital, and then, when his case became hopeless, he was removed to the infirmary. His wife meanwhile contrived to earn a precarious living as a hawker. When she went to visit her dying husband she had to borrow money for her railway fare.

The case came to the notice of Alderman Dawe, of Bath, who at once came forward with an appeal for funds to save Saunders from the ignominy of a pauper's funeral.

We are pleased to note that this appeal was answered by the British Legion, who made arrangements for this war veteran to be decently buried.

We understand, also, that the Legion has offered to take up the cause of the widow and her children with the Ministry of Pensions. Unquestionably this is a case which requires the fullest investigation.

It is shameful that one who has served and suffered in the cause of his country should have been neglected in this way. We hope that the appeal of the British Legion will meet with the success it deserves.

Cheques for the Credulous

Clempert's Cunning Claptrap

JOHN CLEMPERT is a rogue who makes an easy living by inducing country lads to pay him 2s. for slips of pink paper which he represents to be cheques.

"This is a cheque for fifteen and sixpence worth" is the inscription upon these pink forms; and if the yokels wish to learn Mr. Clempert's money-making system they are to post these cheques to him at 8, Nelson Street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

After a delay of some weeks they are favoured with closely-printed pamphlets containing "secrets that are worth knowing."

The "secrets" include recipes for black boot polish, hair wash, foot powder, rheumatic liniment, chocolate, Everton toffee, a sarsaparilla decoction, and other miscellaneous information.

Unfortunately, there are a good many rascals like Clempert in the country, and we can only repeat our previous warnings to readers—never pay money to strangers when they only have promises to offer in return.

Justice for Poverty Court

By EARL RUSSELL

IN courts of law the poorer litigant must pursue his claim at a disadvantage against a richer opponent, being forced at times to surrender his case for want of means. This is an injustice to be remedied by the provision of a Public Defender

IT is frequently said that there is one law for the rich and another for the poor. Like most unqualified assertions, this statement is both true and false, and I propose to examine here the amount of truth which it contains.

In the first place, complaints are made of the intricacies of our legal system, which produce a feeling of helplessness in the prospective litigant approaching the threshold of justice.

Take the kind of case in which the poor are most likely to be concerned, an action for damages for being knocked down by a motor-car, a claim for wages in lieu of notice, for compensation for accident or for a debt.

The suer can begin these actions in the county court with the minimum of formality, but his real difficulty is always in formulating his claim, not because he has to employ any legal jargon, but because he has for the first time in his life to try and speak plain English.

What professional assistance is really invoked for is twofold: First, the necessary drudgery of the formalities; and, secondly, the clear statement of the case.

The poor litigant is handicapped to this extent, that by his education he is unfitted for these two tasks and by his empty pocket he is unable to pay for having them done.

But I hardly see how justice itself can be blamed for this, or can do more than it does do to make his path easy.

Poverty's handicap

In every walk of life the poor man is at a disadvantage as compared with the rich man; he cannot get as good an architect to build his house, he cannot get it as well decorated, he cannot wear as good clothes, and he cannot pay for equally good medical advice, though, thanks to the devotion of the medical profession, he often gets for nothing that for which the rich have to pay a hundred guineas.

Now, when we come to actions in the High Court we find that the procedure is a little more complicated, and that there have to be things called pleadings, corresponding to the particulars of claim in the county court.

In the High Court there is supposed to be an iniquity in the fact that both solicitor and counsel must be employed, thus, as it is sometimes said, doubling the cost. I think this is a mistaken point of view.

The art of taking statements from witnesses, working up a case, and preparing the brief is quite a different art from that of fighting it *viva voce* in court, and I am sure all the very best solicitors would admit that their clients would stand a comparatively poor chance if they (the solicitors) had to conduct the hearing.

The judge's justice

I am speaking now of reasonably simple cases which, so to speak, fight themselves. There are complicated libel and slander cases, intricate technical points in workmen's compensation, incredibly difficult questions about restraint of trade, and highly technical patent actions, in which the decision may well be balanced on a knife-edge and in which nothing but the most skilled advocacy and the most expensive preparation by the solicitor could do full justice to the case.

Such cases are luxuries even for the moderately well-to-do and are out of the reach of the poor man.

I can see nothing that the community can do to remedy this state of affairs short of providing that the best experts in one particular profession shall be compelled to work at less than their market rates, which would in itself be an injustice, seeing that there is ample competition for them at the full rates.

This, at any rate, the public should never forget, that the judge is all the time doing his very best to do strict justice between the parties, quite uninfluenced by considerations as to whether one is employing the best known K.C. while the other has an unknown junior, or that the documents on one side are beautifully typewritten, while on the other they are in a scrawly and illegible handwriting.

But, of course, if the poor man's counsel on an intricate point of law fails to find the argument that will help him, he has to run the risk of the judge not thinking of it for himself.

An expensive game

There are two particular matters in which the poor man is very heavily handicapped. The first is patent actions, or any action involving expert witnesses and technical explanations. Here, obviously, the man who can afford the best expert witnesses and the best counsel to put his contentions before the court has an immense advantage over the other litigant.

The second is in the matter of appeals. The longest purse will always go to the House of Lords, where the poor man cannot follow it. I believe railway companies make a practice of taking litigants to the House of Lords, and this is an expensive game even for the moderately well off.

In an important patent action, where the patentee is a poor man and the infringer a wealthy corporation, the infringer has his case not only strengthened in the first instance by the advice he can afford to buy, but reinforced in each court of appeal by the better way in which it is argued.

Sometimes even the other side cannot reach the House of Lords, through being unable to pay the costs incurred in the Court of Appeal. In these respects substantial injustice is done to the poor, but I confess that I cannot see any way of remedying it.

The power of money

There is another department of justice where the poor man suffers a handicap, and that is in the criminal courts. In summary jurisdiction before magistrates no doubt it sometimes happens that a defendant does not escape conviction, or suffers a heavier punishment than he otherwise would have done, because his defence is not adequately presented to the tribunal.

But conscientious magistrates and assize judges do sincerely try to get at the truth of a matter before them, whether it is argued by counsel or not.

When you come to more serious charges upon indictment the rich man has an advantage, but I think it may without injustice be summed up in this way: that the rich man will sometimes get off when he ought not to, but that the poor man will very seldom be condemned when he is innocent.

At the same time, I cannot help feeling that if the evidence is insufficient, or if there is a legal

Earl Russell

flaw in the charge, the one man is quite as much entitled to have it pointed out as the other, and I have long felt that I should like to see something in the nature of a Public Defender, resembling the Public Prosecutor, to present an adequate defence in any doubtful criminal case at assizes, and above all at quarter sessions.

Jury's common-sense

There is a half-hearted system in vogue by which a prisoner in the dock at assizes can select a counsel present to defend him for a guinea, which arose from the generosity of the Bar, and there is now a more elaborate machinery under the Poor Prisoners' Defence Act, by which counsel and solicitor may be assigned to a prisoner if he discloses his defence in the police court and it appears to have a reasonable chance of success.

I should like to see some young solicitor attached to each police court, whose duty it would be in summary cases to present the prisoner's case adequately if the prisoner desired it.

I am not competent to express an opinion as to how well the Poor Prisoners' Defence Act works, but I rather think the limitations are such that far too many cases are still excluded, and I should be glad to see it strengthened and extended.

Finally, we come to the jury system. Jurymen undoubtedly have those prejudices from which even judges are sometimes not quite immune, but, on the whole, I think that the average common-sense of twelve men taken at random from the community is more likely to arrive at a correct decision than any other tribunal that can be devised.

Majority verdicts

Hardship on the poor litigant arises in both civil and criminal cases when the jury disagree, and I think here we might make one tentative step in advance by making it legal in both classes of cases to take the verdict of the majority when there is only one dissentient.

It is sometimes the fashion to decry juries, and of course it is sometimes the case—as twenty years ago in Ireland—that they will not return verdicts in accordance with the evidence; but, taking one thing with another, and considering the whole possible class of cases, I know of no tribunal on which I could place as great a reliance

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To the Rt. Hon. STANLEY BALDWIN, M.P.,
10, Downing Street, S.W.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,—I hope we shall not have too long a wait for the report of your Committee on Necessitous Areas. Meanwhile you might suggest to the Minister of Health that he should cease baiting Poor-Law guardians who are doing their best to grapple with an impossible situation. What is wanted is national reorganisation, not parochial pin-pricking. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, M.P.,
Chancellor of the Exchequer.

SIR,—The extent to which protective duties are being introduced under the cover of the Safeguarding of Industries Act is viewed with natural alarm. That exceptional conditions might call for special measures was conceded on the Prime Minister's undertaking that no general tariff should be introduced during the lifetime of the present Parliament. Don't try to achieve by trickery what you failed to win by honest argument.
JOHN BULL.

To Sir GEORGE NEWMAN, M.D.,
Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health.

DEAR SIR GEORGE,—Your statement that the working-days lost through rheumatism amount in the aggregate to 60,000 years per annum is one the full meaning of which it is difficult for the mind to grasp. Happily you are able to announce that the Ministry of Health is alive to the problem. That this disease is largely due to poverty and bad housing conditions is a fact of which you need no reminder. JOHN BULL.

To M. L. WALLER, Esq., C.B.,
Chairman, Prison Commissioners.

SIR,—I was much struck by your recent speech at Bournemouth in which you stated that out of a prison population of ten or eleven thousand souls not more than 400 could be regarded as beyond the reach of reform. "The majority of them," you declared, "were there not through depravity, but through the temptations of weakness." It is a matter for great encouragement that those who have most to do with the jails are able to retain their faith in human nature.
JOHN BULL.

To Lord RITCHIE of DUNDEE,
Chairman, Poplar Hospital for Accidents.

DEAR SIR,—To sneerers who ask, "Can any good thing come out of Poplar?" you can point cheerfully to your hospital. Not only does it balance accounts, but it has never been in debt. Last year you achieved the largest collection in its history, £20,000. To the men who meet with accidents while working in the Port such an institution is a priceless boon. JOHN BULL.

To Dr. W. J. HOWARTH,
Medical Officer of Health, City of London.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad you are taking up the question of Sound *v.* Unsound Meat. You point out that at present it is not possible for the purchaser to distinguish between inspected and uninspected meat. You express the strong opinion that there should be some distinguishing mark. I trust you will carry your point.
JOHN BULL.

To Mr. D. MACLEOD,
British Olympic Council.

DEAR SIR,—You emphasise the truth that agriculture can never flourish while foxhunting persists. That 2,000,000 head of poultry are destroyed annually by foxes, that the total lost to the country is £40,000,000, and that housewives must pay through the nose for eggs because laying powers are restricted by forced confinement of fowls, are facts crying aloud for redress. You think there should be immediate legislation. So do I. JOHN BULL.

To J. J. W. PAGE, Esq.,
Ancient Order of Foresters.

SIR,—It was not a happy thought of yours in speaking on behalf of the Crippled Children's Hospital at Northampton to express the view that "badly crippled children should be stifled at birth instead of growing up miseries to themselves and burdens to others." Words more ill-timed and ill-chosen it has seldom been my lot to read.
JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. V. TRAVERS MACY, M.A.,
Honorary Chaplain, Manor House Hospital, N.W.

SIR,—No more admirable suggestion for a memorial to the late Queen Alexandra could be made than your proposal that a general pension fund for nurses should be established in her name. The fear of a poverty-stricken old age is a nightmare to many members of the nursing profession, and there could be no more fitting tribute to the memory of the departed Queen than such an act of justice to the devoted women whose healing mission was her constant care. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. W. INGRAM REED,
Whitehouse, Rogerstone.

DEAR SIR,—Blind since your sixth year, you have not allowed your disability to interfere with your chosen career. At twenty-six you have passed successfully your final legal examination and are now a full-fledged solicitor. Nearly all the 1,600 volumes you have studied were read to you as few law books exist in Braille. Both you and your teachers have shown a patience and perseverance sadly needed in this restless world of to-day. That you may have reward in a successful and remunerative practice is my sincerest wish.
JOHN BULL.

To Alderman GROVES,
Bermondsey.

DEAR ALDERMAN GROVES,—Lest the title conjure up a picture of a portly, turtle-soup-fed magnate in comic opera robes, let me say at once that you are a slender, youthful woman, earning your living as typist in a city office. Scorning the "robes" of public office, you spend your scant hours of leisure in its service, and want to do what you can "in a quiet way to help young people." Bermondsey is setting the pace in employing women's service. You are typical of the spirit of the new age. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. F. HOPKINS,
Thames Lighterman.

DEAR SIR,—You are a hale and hearty specimen of the British working man, of which the nation cannot have too many. Your work is that of a lighterman, your hobby is life-saving. The other day when you rescued a woman from drowning in the Thames it made the total of such rescues more than forty. It's a fine record. I am proud of you. JOHN BULL.

To Mr. WILLIAM RAYSON,
Wymondham.

DEAR SIR,—You are indeed a sparkling youngster. As the oldest inhabitant of your village—you are turned eighty-eight—you recently walked four miles in little over sixty minutes, and, to use your own words, "finished as fit as a fiddle." It's a good example to set the puling youngsters of to-day. JOHN BULL.

THE BAG!

[The grouse shooting season came to an end on December 10.]

Straight from the Shoulder

WINSTON CHURCHILL:—Communist and Socialist principles will fatally wreck the national prosperity of this country.

Since neither is in power they won't wreck it as fatally as a Chancellor who can't balance his budgets.

LORD OXFORD:—Anybody who imagines that by conventions and agreements he can get human methods of war is living in a fool's paradise.

You should know, since most fool's paradises are prepared by statesmen.

VISCOUNT CECIL:—Another war would be a great deal worse than the last.

Since the last was to end war, why have another war?

SIR ROBERT DONALD:—We are prosperous in spite of pessimists and unemployed.

That we have any unemployed in the midst of prosperity is preposterous.

Without Fear or Favour

MADMEN OF DOWNING STREET

Vulgar Abuse

THERE never was a fight yet but produced on one side or the other some individual whose behaviour earned the curses of his friends rather than his enemies. Mr. Charles P. Markham, who gave evidence on behalf of the employers at the Coal Commission must be numbered among the worst examples of this type.

Mr. Markham is chairman and managing director of a number of collieries and a captain in the ranks of the owners in the great Coal War. Many of his more intelligent friends in the industry must devoutly wish that he was on the other side.

In reply to the chairman of the Commission he said: "The whole trouble is with the miners' union. Where you have a little Bolshie fool for secretary you have nothing but trouble."

He went on to accuse the miners of indolence and what might be called picture-house profligacy, and wound up with an evasion of the annual wage he himself drew from the "bankrupt" industry.

Nothing could be better calculated to remove whatever lingering doubts remain in the minds of the general public as to the justice of the miners' claims.

If Mr. Markham has no criticism to offer of Mr. Cook than that he is a "little Bolshie fool," he had better, for the sake of his friends, say nothing. We have had occasion to trounce Mr. Cook for his extremism, but we have not forgotten, and hope we never shall, where that extremism had birth.

It was in the Rhondda Valley where the only houses for miles are hovels. At the best of times in the Rhondda there are dirt and ugliness; at the worst, when starvation comes, there is hell.

If "Bolshie fools" are produced, there is a bitter reason for it. There is none for Mr. Markham's extremism.

The Ultimate Test

IT is now as plain as anything can be that the present Government has no glimmering of a policy in regard to unemployment. Far from having devised a remedy for this chronic industrial malady, Ministers for the most part have not yet begun to understand the nature of the problem.

It is time for plain speaking. The present industrial system must stand or fall with its capacity to find employment. The nation will no longer tolerate the helpless attitude of its rulers towards the most urgent problem of the day.

The danger is that unless the urgency of the matter is recognised and means found to employ workless, the country will turn in despair to one or other of the quack remedies which are propounded for the cure of social ills.

It is no use telling hungry men and women that these hare-brained schemes will spell the shipwreck of British industry. Their answer is that they and their families are ruined already, that their plight is so bad it cannot be worse. If the industrial system is to be saved, it will only be by adapting itself to essential human needs.

Gambling with Health

IF the spirit of our country is not utterly dead the people will rise in holy indignation against the political farce which is being played before their very eyes

AT the present moment Winston Churchill is overhauling the accounts of every Government department. Economies have to be effected; the Budget has to be balanced, and it matters not what public service may suffer as a consequence. The financial reputation of the Government has to be saved.

One of the main departments marked out for this economy attack is the Ministry of Education.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Eustace Percy, President of the Board of Education

No one will deny that the expenses of running our Government departments have swollen to an extent which calls for serious stock-taking. But in any attempt to effect these economies, it is of the utmost importance that they should not be secured at the expense of the future well-being of the community.

If the "economy stunters" are in earnest, then let them face their task with a determination to uproot those services which are costing the nation millions a year.

We are spending over twelve millions a year in trying to cope with the ramifications of tuberculosis and cognate diseases. Added to this, we are spending one and a half million pounds in the medical treatment of children in schools. We are spending millions in our Poor Law institutions.

Are our statesmen mad or are they so incapable of reasoning that they cannot trace these effects to their permanent economic causes? It is either that they are incapable of the task of statesmanship or that they are cynically closing their eyes to the real permanent economy which could be effected by courageously challenging the vested interests.

TO-DAY we are tinkering with the housing problem. If we want land for houses we have to pay monopoly prices to the owners. In an effort to give work to the unemployed, we spend millions on making roads and other public improvements, and when this is done we find that what we have succeeded in doing is to increase the value of land to such an extent as to have made town expansion impossible!

The first bold stroke in economy would be to put the land speculator out of business and extract from him every ounce of value, through taxation and rating, which lies in his land as a result of public expenditure.

The Government must know, if it has nothing more than the mere elementary knowledge of an ordinary observer, that it is spending millions on preventable diseases which our city slums are breeding.

It is almost a waste of time to continue criticising our present statesmen. The responsibility for their actions must ultimately rest upon every man and woman in this nation. They must arouse themselves from this lethargy and indifference and challenge those who would play fast and loose with their fortunes and the well-being of posterity.

THE challenge is this: Are our children to be robbed of the fullest advantage of spiritual and physical development under the plea of economy while profiteering in the birthright of man is to be allowed to continue?

The land of England is the gift of the Creator to the people. Its defence has been maintained by the common sacrifice of the common people. It must become their land in peace time and in reality.

If we neglect to make this demand we insult our manhood and condemn our children to continue down the gutter alleys towards the stately institutions for the mentally deficient and the crippled.

Drunkenness Tests

IT is utterly absurd and unjust that while a man's liberty and his whole career may depend on a definition of drunkenness, there is no definition officially accepted and laid down for the guidance of police, doctors and magistrates.

In these motoring days it is of urgent importance that we should be able to tell definitely whether a man is drunk or sober.

Only the other day a doctor confessed that his own wife had failed to pass a sobriety test to which he had submitted a man accused of insobriety, and another doctor confessed that he himself could not pass the test used in the town in which he lived!

It sometimes happens that it needs the death of an accused person in order to prove sobriety. It is not at all uncommon for illness to be mistaken for drunkenness.

A man who, in the streets, feels the oncoming of an attack of faintness runs a very grave risk if he takes a little brandy as a restorative. If the restorative fails and the man collapses the fact that he "smells of drink" may be sufficient to condemn him.

One other point which ought not to be overlooked is that there are doctors who are too generous in their judgments. Such a doctor is as unjust to the general public as the other type of doctor is to an accused person.

The absence of an official definition cuts both ways. The demand for a definition is not a demand for greater laxity—a drunken motor-driver is too great a menace to public safety—but a demand for an even break all round.

Action ought to be taken. The Home Secretary ought to be requested to ask the Royal College of Physicians to appoint a committee to draw up the required definition and devise a series of common-sense tests.

Faked Divorces

MR. JUSTICE BATESON was edified the other day by a wife's confession that the evidence of misconduct with which she supplied her husband, to enable him to obtain the divorce they both desired, was entirely fictitious.

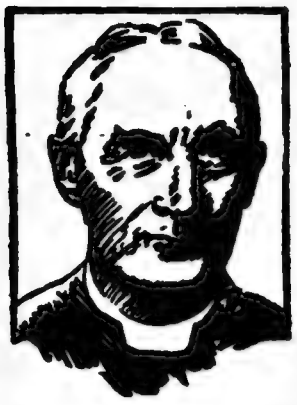
Perhaps because the learned judge has not been long on the Bench he appeared to be more than a little shocked by this piquant disclosure.

It was not so very long ago that a distinguished Member of Parliament publicly boasted that he had tricked the Divorce Court into granting a decree by pretending to an act of adultery he had never committed.

Deceiving the judges in this way is not regarded as contempt of court. It has become the recognised mode of dodging the present divorce law.

Ought it to be necessary for people who want their marriages annulled to resort to subterfuges of this kind?

For our own part we are inclined to hold that, provided the interests of the children can be satisfactorily protected, a marriage that has become degraded to this level is better at an end.



Dr. Winnington Ingram, Bishop of London

Who's Gagging "The Yard"?

by "A GENTLEMAN WITH A DUSTER"

BRITAIN is regarded as the most moral and clean-minded nation in the world. Yet in its centre is a canker which would put any nation to shame, and with which those who should use the knife seem powerless to cope

NOT willingly, but because I feel the thing forced upon me, I revert to the subject with which I dealt in this place a fortnight ago—namely, the increasing degradation of morals at the centre of the British Empire.

What do I mean by saying that I feel the thing forced upon me?

First, I have had lately a prolonged conversation with a man of no little eminence who has given this subject his close attention; and, second, I am convinced that unless a public opinion can be formed strong enough to strangle this dreadful scandal, at whatever cost, immorality of the most abominable nature will prey upon our national life until the end of Britain is the end of Rome.

The man with whom I have conferred on this matter bears a name which is known all over London, and is accepted by thousands of people as a chief moral influence in the metropolis. He is earnest, enthusiastic and courageous. He is also tolerant, gentle, lovable and humorous.

No one could think of him as a Puritan, and no one would suggest that he could be carried a yard out of the way of good sense by the ardours of fanaticism.

Pits of abomination

A friend of the highest in the land and acquainted with most of the notabilities of our time, he enjoys a reputation for cheerful pleasantness among all sorts and conditions of men, and is as much loved for his humanity as he is admired for his character.

This man tells me that the moral condition of London is worsening to an extent that beggars description. Asiatic vices which were once indulged in by a few degenerates in terrified secrecy are now practised by many with a complete contempt for public opinion and a frank disregard of police authority.

In places open to anyone who can afford the few shillings charged at the door for a perfectly reasonable purpose such sights may be seen as are unutterably atrocious. Men who go to such places for their ostensible purpose, and see what is taking place, utter no word of protest and do not apparently inform the police.

In the case of one of these pits of abomination, however, I have reason to believe that the police authorities have been informed of its vileness and have replied that if their informant himself will prosecute they will lend him their support.

Vice v. virtue

What strikes the man who spoke to me about this matter is the inexplicable apathy of the Home Office and the apparent unwillingness of Scotland Yard to force a public exposure.

He said to me, "I am almost in despair about London, and I think that this despair does not so much come from the knowledge of its iniquity, as from the feeling that I can go to no one in authority in all London, no one at all, and say to him, put this damnable thing down!

"Yes, that's why I despair. The feeling that virtue has got no vigour, and the law no pluck. Vice is organised; but not virtue. Vice is audacious; but not virtue. How many good people are there in London? Millions. What is the power of all these millions? Nothing."

Does it not sometimes seem to the careful observer of London's social life that it is organised, not for the higher purposes of civilisation, but for the basest ends of barbarism; and that those who are its guardians of law and order take their commands from the worst of us and not from the best?

Pathetic defeat

Let me name a person who is almost certainly as well acquainted with the dreadful state of London as the man of whom I have spoken, and one who, like this other, is quietly and persistently engaged in fighting impurity—I mean, the Bishop of London.

If ever a brave and unselfish man walked this earth it is Dr. Winnington Ingram. I know him to be bone good and burning with enthusiasm. I do not share his theological opinions, and I do not think he is the wisest Bishop of London who ever lived in Fulham Palace.

But I would I were as earnest, as true, and as unselfish a man as this prelate, who loves London with every drop of blood in his body and feels the shame of London like a knife in his heart.

Would you not say that such a man could command a hearing from the Home Office, could rouse Scotland Yard out of its apathy, could move even the Royal Power to quicken the conscience of the Government? Is it to be supposed that a man of such burning sincerity and such courageous zeal has *not* appealed to the authorities for their aid?

One cannot believe it. And if he has asked for that aid, why is it withheld? Why is his battle for the purity of London such a lonely one? Why is the defeat of so valorous and stern a fighter pathetic in its completeness?

Take the matter of harlotry. The Bishop do not think of the women in Jermyn Street, Dov Street, Burlington Gardens, and Coventry Str as the man of the world thinks of them. does not call them members of "the oldest p fession." He does not even denounce them their profanation of sex and their degradati of womanhood.

To him each of those women is committi immortal suicide; each is an individual s opposing itself to the will of God and perishi in the service of damnation; each one, if could, he would save for her own sake, not o that she might not drag men down to evil, that she herself might find the peace and happin of communion with God.

How is it, then, that such an impassioned a courageous evangelist is powerless to remove fr the streets of London merely the flagrant indece of public prostitution?

How is it that with such a brave servant of G at the head of London's Christianity the v centre of the metropolis should shout its infa to all the world?

He is the captain of London's millions of g people, this happy warrior of God. Why is then, as little feared by the organisers of vice Falstaff, with his regiment of scarecrows, by King's enemies? The question not only begg the imagination. It sets the mind thinking

A move for safety

I do not want to use wild words, or to utte dark hint merely with the purpose of suggesti that I know more than I will say; but I earnestly tell the people of London that the ti may not be far off when, for their own safe they will have to demand a fearless and searchi investigation into the organisation of Scotla Yard and the character of its relations with Home Office.

A callous Cabinet and a weak Minister of Education have combined to rob British babies of their chance in life

A Noble L

THE noblest cry ever heard on the sea is the cry: "Women and children first."

In an unpleasant way I have been reminded of this cry by the money-raising devices of the Government.

The Rev. Thomas Tiplady

I have seen conjurers get large Union Jacks out of silk hats, but Mr. Churchill has improved on their performances. He has got a naval base at Singapore out of silk stockings.

The women having paid for an unnecessary naval base, the Government has decided to make the babies pay for the unnecessary warships which have been ordered.

Lord Percy has announced that the education grant for each child under five is to be reduced by 30s. The present grant is so small that the teachers in infant and nursery schools spend a considerable amount of their own money in buying Montessori games and apparatus for the children's use. The reduction of the gra means that the schools for babies under five be closed, and the little ones turned into street. Lord Percy, in justifying the Gove ment's action, says that "the children will better at home."

No doubt the children would be "better home" if they had a palatial home like L Percy and a governess such as he had when a ba

I WAS in an infant school this week. One the teachers told me that one of her girls loo very tired. She therefore asked if she had sl badly the night before? The girl replied, "Y Bertie kicked me." "Where do you sleep asked the teacher. "I sleep with Bertie at bottom of the bed and mamma and daddy sl at the top."

Each afternoon the babies go to sleep for hour on their little work tables, and the teac told me that this is the only real sleep some them ever get.

Lord Percy never slept with his sister at bottom of his parents' bed or he would not t nonsense about the children being better at h than at school.

Many of the children come from "home

The Creeping Hand

by A. G. GARDINER

THE people have already given their verdict on the matter of Protection with no uncertain voice If the Government tries to introduce it by a back door, electors will insist on being given an opportunity to show they have not altered their opinion

THE tide of Protection is coming in fast. It is filling up the creeks and inlets, and soon the country will wake up to the fact that we have changed the whole basis of industry and commerce without a word being said to the public or a vote being recorded at an election.

Already the number of commodities taxed under one ingenious method or another is considerable, ranging from motor-cars to dolls' eyes, and from the gas mantle in your room to the silk ribbon on your slippers. Now another little list has been presented—knives and razors, and what not.

Outside, more and more claimants are clamouring for the "dole" out of the pockets of the consumer, and committees, carefully picked to come to the right sort of decision, are reporting to Parliament favourably.

Even the big industries are beginning to bite. The great worsted industry is demanding a bit of the plunder, and soon we may have every woman's dress and every child's frock on the list.

Now it seems to me that this is a most momentous thing and that it is time the man in the street took an interest in it.

And not the man only. This is peculiarly a woman's question. It is the woman who keeps the domestic purse and pays the domestic bills, and if the taxation of the consumer is to be the policy it is she who will know about it.

A knock for our women

She will do well to watch events very closely, compare prices very carefully, and keep a record of what she paid for this or that taxed article before it was taxed and afterwards. In this way she will know much better than any politician what Protection will mean to her.

Let her watch what is happening, for example, in fabric gloves. The tax was put on nominally to protect a struggling industry at home. The effect has been to cut down the consumption of fabric gloves. The tax has made the foreign glove too dear and the home manufacturer fails to make them cheap, so the consumer is turning to other glove ware.

Or take the case of lace. The tax was put on in the summer to stimulate the trade. It has not stimulated it. There are two thousand more unemployed in the trade to-day than there were before the tax was imposed.

All that the tax has done has been to enable the home manufacturer to charge the consumer more for her goods.

London as clearing-house

Perhaps the best working illustration of what the new system means is furnished by the silk and artificial silk duty. The consumer has not yet felt the full force of the operation of the duty, owing to the large stocks which were accumulated before the tax came in. But let the movement of prices be carefully watched.

In the past traders from all countries came to London to buy every kind of silk goods from everywhere. They bought here because they could buy French, Swiss, Italian, German goods as cheaply as they could buy them in the country of origin, and it was more convenient.

Now with the tax imposed, London is losing this world trade. It is true that there is a rebate on re-exports; but the delays and difficulties in connection with the recovery of the tax are so great that the buyers now find it better to go to the Continental markets to buy direct.

The Australian and South American buyers are establishing centres in Paris, and the whole of the trade that used to flow through London from the Continent to the remote parts of the world is now going from Continental ports.

I was talking to a silk merchant and manufacturer in the City this week, and he said that since the tax was put on he had sent, mainly to

The Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, M.P.

Australia, 250,000 lb. of silk, which instead of going through London has gone direct.

Consider what the loss of this trade means to the country. It means loss of freightage, handling, dock charges, dock labour, insurance, packing, case-making and a multitude of incidental gains.

Take packing alone. The packing of textiles for export is a great business in the City. It is a highly skilled industry employing great numbers of workpeople. It is being extinguished as a mere incident of the tax.

And I hear that the big mail steamers are already being hard hit by the loss of cargo which instead of going from English ports now goes in foreign ships from foreign ports.

There is another aspect of this tax. It is killing the small trader with limited capital. The big firm can pay the duty and wait to recover it from the consumer, but the small man cannot afford to wait weeks and months for money which is necessary to carry on his trade.

Instruments of madness

I will not enlarge upon the incredible confusion and cost into which the silk trade has been plunged by the exactions, delays, stupidities of the Customs officers. They are only the instruments of the madness that is playing havoc with industry.

And all this in order that the woman purchaser shall be compelled to pay more for every scrap of silk that she buys and that the manufacturers, instead of learning to produce cheaply and compete abroad, may be able to exact whatever profits they like from the home consumer.

Imagine the system I have described at work, not in the silk and lace and cutlery and glove trades only, but extended to every industry. It must be so extended, for you cannot favour one set of manufacturers and not another.

The people who are carrying out this piecemeal Protection are piercing the dam here and there so that it may collapse more easily and the full tide of Protection may surge in.

What then? England as the centre of world trade will cease. What is happening in the silk trade will happen in all trades, with consequent loss to all the vast interests dependent upon our world market. With his 33⅓ per cent. tariff wall, the home manufacturer will have the home consumer by the throat.

The unprotected consumer

And the consumer will be helpless. There is no protection for him. You cannot protect the policeman, the postman, the cab-driver and the rest by putting a tax on their foreign competitors, for they have no foreign competitors.

If the consumer is to protect himself he can only do it by stopping this Protectionist ramp. It has not been authorised by him at the polls. On the contrary, Mr. Baldwin gave a solemn undertaking that he would not introduce tariffs without the consent of the country. If he wants to introduce them let him ask for that consent.

But this back-door evasion of an honourable undertaking is an outrage to the traditions of public life, and if Mr. Baldwin is the honest man that we like to think he is he will stop it.

's Nonsense

By the Rev. THOMAS TIPLADY

where six families live in a house made for one. Each family has one room. There is no bathroom, and only one water-closet for all the families in the house. There is only one water tap, and the women in the upper rooms have to carry up the stairs all the water they use.

If the children are not at the school they will be in the streets, for there is no room for them to play at home. Instead of learning to play, drill, read and count, they will be learning to swear, lie, steal and quarrel.

Yes, it is a pity Lord Percy was not born in a slum, for many slum children will have to suffer because he was nursed in the lap of luxury. He will make Communists faster than the Home Secretary can arrest them.

THE Treaty of Locarno has been signed, yet Lord Percy is going to close the schools for babies to save the price of a few guns on the new warships the Government is going to construct. We are to have a C3 nation because we have a C3 Cabinet.

Educationists are agreed that the most important years in their bearing on the future are the first five, and Lord Percy has decreed that these shall be spent by slum children in the streets instead of in nursery schools. A Cabinet of men "clothed in purple and fine linen" and faring sumptuously every day has said so.

It is a pity we cannot sentence each one of them to live with his family in one room in a slum for a year, and then put them back into power. When they came back from the slums we should hear from them less about battleships and more about nursery schools.

THE Government has raided the women's stockings. Now it is going to raid the babies' money box! What a Government! Every Cabinet Minister's baby has a nursery of its own and a governess of its own, and the fathers of these babies are going to shut up these communal nurseries and scatter the devoted and clever teachers who each act the part of governess or mother to thirty or forty of the babies of the poor.

What a Cabinet! No wonder the teaching profession and all the educationists in the country are up in arms against it.

A child is a weak thing, but the cry of a child in the night can awaken many families. May the cry of the children in our dark and dreadful slums awaken the whole nation so that the nurseries of the little ones may be saved!

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CHURCHILL'S NEXT VICTIM

By the RIGHT HON. WILLIAM GRAHAM, LL.B., M.P.

MR. CHURCHILL, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, finds himself in a mess, and is looking for a way out. He will, however, encounter bitter opposition if he endeavours to save his face by committing breaches of faith

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer is a desperate man. Desperate—in the sense that as the end of the financial year on March 31 approaches he finds himself hemmed in by all kinds of problems.

Revenue is sagging, for the authorities are now working on many of the bad patches of four years of industrial depression.

Efforts to speed up the collection of arrears of income-tax are practically hopeless. In innumerable cases firms would simply be forced into liquidation.

In that case the Government, nine times out of ten, would get little or nothing, since there are always creditors with prior claim; and the banks are careful to have preference in the best of the security.

Practically no impression is made on unemployment; overseas trade shows no appreciable improvement; in three months the coal subsidy has cost the Government and the taxpayers over £6,000,000; they will be lucky if they get off with £18,000,000 in the full period of nine months.

The Chancellor's desperation

In some quarters it is thought that Mr. Churchill, in his desperation, may turn to the revived suggestion of a tax on betting. The Inland Revenue authorities told the Select Committee of the House of Commons a year or two ago that a scheme for taxing bets was practicable, if Parliament decided that it were desirable. It would amount, however, to a revolution on the general outlook on the subject, and in opposition to it there would be the whole forces of the Churches. It might even split political Parties.

It is a practical certainty, therefore, that Mr. Churchill will not find, even if he should seek, salvation in that direction. His powers of oratory are considerable, but they would be unequal to this test.

Faced with a deficit, and even with the dismal prospect of having to reimpose taxation which has been remitted, the Chancellor sends emissaries to the Continent to discover the possibilities of luxury taxation. On this issue a committee reported in the days of the Coalition Government.

An elusive surplus

By all means tax luxuries rather than the necessaries of life. But, unfortunately for Mr. Churchill there is no large-scale revenue in luxury taxation. It can be easily evaded.

The luxurious very soon find untaxed or partially taxed substitutes. As a rule, they tend to be selfish, even in financial emergency, and selfish people walk round most of the taxes of the day.

So luxury taxation will not materially help the Chancellor, as probably high Treasury and other authority will tell him if they get a chance to put in a word. While these emissaries are scouring Europe Mr. Churchill turns to the Road Fund at home.

In substance the Road Fund is built up of the motor-car duties in Great Britain. Each year, from the sum available, broadly 70 per cent. is earmarked for the maintenance of existing roads and 30 per cent. for the provision of new roads.

Mr. Churchill is misled by an apparent surplus of £17,000,000 in this fund; in reality there is no surplus. The Government has admitted that the commitments of the fund take the resources on to 1930 or 1931.

Moreover, the clauses in the Roads Act are of the nature of a bargain or contract with the local authorities and the motor transport industry in Great Britain. Any raid or diversion would be a breach of faith; from it the Chancellor could hardly recover.

A staggering blow

No one believes in assigned revenues at the present day—that is, the devotion of the yield of particular taxes to particular objects in the State. All Chancellors like to be free to handle the money-bag.

But in this case that refinement hardly applies, for the roads must be maintained, extended, improved and developed in the very interests of our industrial and commercial recovery. A blow at roads is a blow at internal transport, the motor industry, and substantial effort which has done well by us in this crisis.

But this threat is a good illustration of the appalling weakness of Mr. Churchill's financial policy. Think of its general line. He and his Government continue to squander millions in the wastes of the desert. For the first time since the war expenditure on armaments goes up—it is now over £120,000,000 a year.

Yet it is notorious that within the existing administration of armaments expenditure many millions annually could be saved.

Groping in the dark

Mr. Churchill might call for some of the preliminary suggestions of the Colwyn Committee regarding the annual burden of the Debt, but apparently does not; he reaches no decision as to whether steps can be taken to get better results for the many millions which the State contributes annually to the local authorities; education is threatened, although large industrialists are pleading that better commercial education is vital to our recovery—in short, the truly important, constructive things are left to struggle, while subsidies are ladled out and militarism is comforted.

Consumers generally have a rough time. Everybody pleads with the Chancellor to reduce expenditure. In effect, he says that financially he is a tied house; he is in the grip of contractual obligation. Mr. Baldwin takes up the refrain.

Yet no student has any difficulty in writing down a dozen routes by which the Chancellor might move to reduced expenditure at the present day. Instead, he looks round for new revenue.

Much of this is done in the guise of protecting home industry; the returns of employment in these industries show that it is not achieving that result. Silk, motor-cars, pianos, cinematograph films, musical instruments, lace and other commodities are taxed; Parliament is now invited to extend these blessings to cutlery, packing and wrapping paper, leather and fabric gloves.

There are others marching up to the committees in an anxious queue, for the apparently automatic recommendations of duty, with here and there an exception,

The Rt. Hon. William Graham, late Financial Secretary to the Treasury

as in aluminium hollow-ware, just to prove the rule.

Meanwhile, prices do not fall. How could they? In substance the people are getting each year more taxation to pay, for they are paying the greater part of the heavy import duties. If the price does not rise the home manufacturer is not protected, and he is honest enough to announce that to the world.

Apart from the controversy of safeguarding industry, what the people want is less taxation. Mr. Churchill is brilliant in resource in finding them more!

What an extraordinary Chancellor of the Exchequer at a time when the annual total load is £800,000,000, four times what it was before the war; when in addition the people have to pay £160,000,000 in local rates, only vaguely proportioned to their ability to pay, or twice the pre-war burden; and when in the settlement of Allied debt this country is being left in undisputed possession.

Small wonder that business men have given up Mr. Churchill's financial policy in despair. Another Geddes axe is supposed to be hewing down the forest of burden, but so far fresh taxes are the only results which have emerged—in short, the whole policy is wrong. Instead of going for the expenditure the system of taxation is almost indefinitely extended.

Casting stones

At Edinburgh Mr. Churchill went out of his way to describe the British Socialists as the most stupid of all. That was the well-chosen peroration in a city of education and restraint. But they would require a stupidity amounting to genius to work themselves into the financial bog in which, covered with dubious renown, he is seated to-day.

So far, his record in summary is this: For the first time national expenditure has increased since the war, and that on armaments; fresh taxes on all kinds of articles, some of which are the raw materials of other British industries; the development of the subsidy system, the invariable makeshift of the financially distressed; the prospect of a deficit in the next Budget, and new taxes; a threat to raid the Road Fund, which may extend to any other fund to-morrow.

The performance is a brilliant effort on the part of one who considers it his duty to reflect on the intelligence of others!

Every Man can afford to be WELL DRESSED!

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THE THING I HATE!

by Dr. F. W. NORWOOD (*Minister of the City Temple*)

OUR contributor, believing that arbitration should precede and not follow war, gives his reasons for signing the pledge of the "Arbitrate First" movement. Convinced that the movement will lead to peace, he urges our readers to give it support

I AM a practical man though touched with idealism. To lack idealism is to surrender one's claim to be truly practical, for the man who does merely the jobs that come to his hand without some notion of what the universe really means is a jobber who can build neither a house nor a character.

But I want to see things done. I have my feet planted firmly upon the earth, and I want some change to take place where I live and not merely where I dream. My calling compels me to be rather a talker than a worker with my hands, but I feel hurt if anyone suggests that I am not a labourer.

Words, rightly used, are explosive propelling forces that drive machinery, and many times have demonstrated that they are mightier than deeds, since they can create deeds. I am not content merely to talk about world peace unless talk will help to compel its establishment.

There is rather too much talk of the inefficient kind about the necessity of getting rid of war. All who are not blind are aware of its brutality and futility; its horrors have been burned into our very souls. Everybody knows that the miseries we have seen are as nothing to those that science is daily preparing, either for ourselves or our children.

Kill war or war will kill

It is a platitude to say that either we must get rid of war or war will get rid of us. It would have a perfect right to do so, for a civilisation which could save none of its hard-won treasures from sporadic floods of beastliness ought to go wherever Sodom and Gomorrah went.

Yet we talk, and keep on talking, as if we were conducting a debate in an academy. We score dialectical points off our opponents and divide public opinion, the only thing that matters, into straggling groups of wranglers.

All the while there is a clear, consistent and effective course open to us. The machinery is in position and in working order to compel nations to arbitrate before they go mad instead of after they have recovered from their insanity. The pressure of the public is all that is wanted to set it in operation.

There are some people who scout the idea of arbitration, but their only option is to have it after war since they will not have it before. But come to it they must. Every limping step we have taken towards decency since 1918 has been by means of arbitration.

Signs of returning sanity

If we think that the victor in war can dispense with it we must still be thinking of very small wars—the kind that are not going to happen any more.

Even the scrap which the French and the Spaniards have been having in Morocco was only an outpost affair; the most it can have done is to bring a little nearer the day when the whites and non-whites of the world must arbitrate or fight or, what seems more likely, fight first and arbitrate afterwards.

That victors are not wise has been one of the primary lessons of the last seven years. We have been trying hard ever since to recover from the "peace" we ourselves made.

The most fatuous thing in history took place when we compelled Germany to sign the treaty and shoulder all the guilt of the war without the faintest whisper concerning arbitration. We have been waiting ever since for the Germans to make proposals of peace to us which we have always accepted humbly.

The Locarno Pact is the last suggestion they made to us and our relief in agreeing to it would be pathetic if it were not a sign of returning sanity. Heaven save us in future from the kind of "peace settlement" which is but the hysteria consequent upon victory.

I confess I prefer "arbitrate *first*" to "arbitrate *last*." To the first you may come with dignity; to the other like whipped curs.

Pacifism's logic

I spent a day of repentance not long ago in that Gallery of Mirrors at Versailles where the Peace Treaty was made. To me it seemed appropriate that it is so largely made of glass.

At the other extreme from those who see no other way but "the good old way" of fight first and arbitrate afterwards, stand the pacifists solidly confronting the situation with the simple negative statement, "I personally will not fight."

They are at least logical, and if there were enough of them, they would thus bring to an end the whole business. But there are not enough of them, and there are not likely to be enough within measurable time. Besides, there must be a certain unity of movement in such matters. China can tell us what happens when one nation is pacifist and the rest are aggressive.

The theory of "the martyr nation" has great attraction for some high souls, but there is not a nation upon the globe, and especially in Europe, that is content to be offered up as a sacrifice.

I think it most likely that I myself would be classed as a pacifist in the event of another war, but in peace time I want to say that I have distinct points of difference.

The appeal to sentiment

I do not believe that a merely negative personal attitude is adequate to the situation. No one can deny that it is logical, especially in war time. Then they are only emotional, and that to the extent of being hysterical.

Pacifism at such a time, in any given country, would never be universal. If strong enough, it would merely stultify it and make it a prey to others, or else create a state like internal civil war.

Pacifists will always be in a minority, and in this matter only a majority can alter existing conditions. War is the most deeply entrenched of all our "civilised" institutions. Hatred of it never became dangerous to the State until our own time. It has become so only as a consequence of suffering upon an unprecedented scale.

Even now it is not certain that statesmen visualise the peril the war system would be in by reason of non-participants if they juggled us into another struggle.

If we let this generation pass with its hideous memories, and let only our war memorials stand with their adjectives of glory, some less sophisticated flood of manhood may be fooled again as we have been fooled, and probably with the same courage and sincerity.

The most glorious words in the language, such as "honour," "justice," "liberty," "fatherland," "home" and "mother,"

The Rev. F. W. Norwood

will do the usual deadly work, and human valour will be the pitiful offering to futility and stagnation.

The open road

We cannot wave this nightmare away with words. Machinery must counter machinery; organised pacific force must answer organised aggressive force. In our imperfect state law is the only alternative to war.

That is what the League of Nations stands for; that is what every leading nation has subscribed to, including now even Germany, with Russia and America standing out for very different reasons.

The logical consequence of that is arbitration before war. The time will come when it will be arbitration instead of war. There is the open road, and there is no other since the rainbow has not yet been opened for traffic.

Here is not a counsel of perfection, but one of practicability. Already it is certain that a nation which should launch war without previous recourse to arbitration will be adjudged as criminal.

The Locarno Pact has apparently reconciled the most powerful, but up to now the most inveterately antagonistic, of the European nations. The wheel must turn full circle and the plain people, who always are the sufferers, must push it all the way round.

The pledge to sign

Therefore, I for one would give the whole world opportunity to know where I stand. I came out of the Great War less simple than I went into it. I hate the damnable thing so bitterly that I can conceive of no argument that would take me into another. Certainly as a minister of Christ I will never cease to describe it as everything that is contrary to His Spirit.

Meanwhile, I have some recognition of the realities of the situation, and do not wish to ride upon the clouds. But I have signed for myself, and will urge others to sign this pledge of the "Arbitrate First" movement which reads:

"Believing that Law must take the place of War in the settlement of international disputes, and desiring to increase the effectiveness of the League of Nations by our definite individual support, I, the undersigned, solemnly pledge myself to withhold support from any Government which refuses to submit the causes of the dispute to arbitration, or which refuses to accept the decision so given."

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Mr. Drage : Don't trouble about ordinary hire purchase. It will soon be a back number The British public are determined that their furnishing motto shall be "Safety first —The New Drage Way."

Mr. Everyman : Safety and quality, I should say, for we've been very struck with the excellent value of your furniture. In fact, we've selected more than we anticipated for the £120 we hope to open an account for, if we can arrange terms.

Mr. Drage: Don't say "if." We never have difficulties about terms in this room. Now what would you like to pay?

Mr. Everyman : Would £10 now and 60/- a month afterwards suit you, Mr. Drage?

Mr. Drage : Splendidly. Now we'll deliver all the furniture to your house at Hounslow within 48 hours from now.

Mr. Everyman : Is there any extra payment for what I call your Home Insurance.

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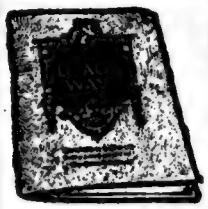

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THE YOGI LADY

by SYDNEY A. MOSELEY

CONTINUING his remarkable investigations on behalf of "John Bull," into the claims of fortune-telling. Mr. Moseley exposes the flimsiness of the evidence offered by a well-known London clairvoyant

THERE may be a lot of unemployment about; but not among fortune-tellers. Mrs. Cecil Campbell, who is "under Royal patronage" as "a clairvoyant and oculist, astrologist and palmist," kept me waiting nearly an hour before she would see me, although I had taken care to make an appointment. The demand apparently exceeds the supply.

Mrs. Campbell uses the "Hindoo Yogi System," and I was anxious to know what it all meant. There is no secrecy so far as this lady is concerned. Whereas Estelle has an intermediary and wanted to know the name of a mutual friend before she would give me a sitting, Mrs. Campbell made no bones about it.

First of all, in her circular she states that she "can be consulted from all Messrs. Keith Prowse branches." Then she didn't even ask me who sent me till the sitting was at an end.

One has the choice of a five shilling, a half-a-guinea or a guinea sitting. I chose the guinea touch, because I wanted the whole article. I said I wanted clairvoyance, the crystal and a bit of Yogi. The fortune-teller replied that I had better have my palm read clairvoyantly. So it was.

"What an extraordinary life you have led," she says quickly, looking at both of my palms. (Estelle, you may remember, was content with one.) "A most interesting life. Do you know, you ought to have entered the medical profession—a fine doctor—you would have made a first-class surgeon. And yet there is a contradiction here. You would have made a splendid engineer."

An awkward discrepancy

Both these careers were omitted from Estelle's venture, but in both cases the palmists ran through the whole gamut of professions. Mrs. Campbell took care to say that I had a logical mind and that I was rather sceptical.

That is so. I have a logical mind and I am a sceptic. *I want to know, for instance, why two palmists reading the same palms come to two different conclusions in respect to my career.*

It is obvious, from the condition of my hands, that I am not a son of the soil. Ninety-nine people out of a hundred with no pretence of occult gifts would know that I had some profession or the other. But neither of these "guinea" seers told me what my profession actually was.

Yet I must admit that both mentioned music, the cinema and the theatre as realms for my future activities. If one wants to believe, there are, I admit, as many vague points which could be seized upon as there are points which help one to disbelieve.

The line that misled

For instance, it is true that recently I have been asked to join the board of a theatrical enterprise. It is also true that I am musical, but I have had no end of people with no pretensions to fortune-telling who have guessed that.

Mrs. Campbell strikes me as a very clever and understanding woman. She rattled off my past at such a rate that almost took my breath away. She told me what happened when I was seven, eight, thirteen and twenty-four and thirty-three. Really I had no time to wonder whether what she said was true or not. Yet it all sounded very possible.

But when the clairvoyant came to make a statement of fact, she failed. She suggested I had made an early marriage. Well, I did not. And I told her so. There must be a misleading line on my hand.

"Then," she said, "in that case, you must have had certain definite influences in your life at an early age," which, of course, is an entirely different matter. She went on fluently about the influences of the planets.

"You see, Jupiter and Saturn are in the ascendant and in the eleventh month, your birthday——"

"The eleventh month?" I asked, puzzled.

"Yes," she replied, "you were born in November, weren't you?"

"I told you I was born in March."

The confident air of the lady was checked, but only momentarily. Mrs. Campbell certainly has much prepossession. I wanted to know now whether all she had told me was affected by this mistake. "Oh no," she said at once. "November is sympathetic to March."

A question of degree

So that was all right. As a mere pick-me-up, fortune-telling may have its points, but Mrs. Campbell assured me that I am going to do a number of big things in the future, although the biggest thing I did that evening was to pay up a guinea without a murmur.

I asked what was the difference between the five-shilling sitting and the guinea.

"Oh, didn't you notice the difference? I have read your palm *clairvoyantly*. Can't you see by my eyes?"

I looked and found that the eyes were very charming, but beyond that could see no other signs.

"Why, they have popped right into my head," she said.

Mrs. Campbell told me that her introduction to Keith Prowse was through the late King Edward, and she mentioned the name of a big London stores which recommends her.

Promised assistance

Madame Campbell is "getting on" in years, but is still good-looking. She has moved in high society and has a press-cutting book. That she knows her way about is obvious. She doesn't "hum or haw" or study your feeling about things. Her way is precise and commanding.

She doesn't say: "Well, now I think—according to these lines—you may be," etc. No; she just says, "You are," as if she believed it. Thus:

"You will be moving . . . a good move. And in your interviews I will be with you in spirit to help you. . . . . You will marry. Three children—a boy and two girls. They'll all be very clever. One a musician, another a chemist, the other——"

Well, here she hesitated a bit. It would be stupid to give a male occupation to a female!

In business it is self-confidence that counts. You tell a man what he wants—and give it to him. That is Mrs. Campbell's way. She makes you believe she knows—except when she tells you you are married and you know you are not.

Finally, Mrs. Campbell did what they all did. She definitely asked me what my profession was. Having received the necessary information, she was able to rattle along for another five minutes. The profession, apparently, was the right one for me, for my planets were now in the ascendant.

Sydney A. Moseley

She gave me the rather sweeping advice not to tie myself down by contract to any particular post, for "so many changes of importance and interest" were going to take place in my career that I would be foolish to tie myself down. (This advice, by the by, might prove to be a serious matter if given to some people.)

Intriguing initials

I was beginning to feel that Mrs. Campbell was failing when suddenly she mentioned the point I had in mind. A legacy! Had I not been left a legacy? Did I not expect one? A sitting without a legacy would be unthinkable!

"Well," she said, "actually you should have had a legacy in 1910, but you will get it and it will be better for having waited. It will probably be left you by an elderly man who is interested in you," and she gave me initials.

This initial business is rather intriguing. Fortune-tellers always trot out initials, and if you ask, as I did, whether they represent Christian names or not, the answer is: "They may mean both."

You see, then, four initials cover a multitude of names and it is a fairly easy shot, when you think of the number of friends and acquaintances who have Christian names and surnames.

No, Mrs. Campbell, that logical mind of mine, that scepticism, does not help me much in my endeavours to believe all this. Nevertheless, when the advice is inspiriting it can do no harm, although, in order to balance matters perhaps, Mrs. Campbell mentioned the possible death of "two persons which would influence my life. . . . They would help to clear the air," she said.

* * *

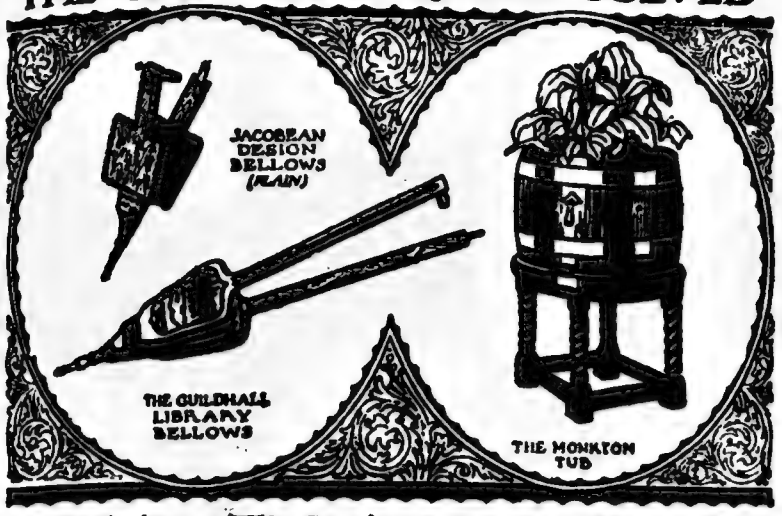
The sport of mug-hunting

It seems to me at this juncture that the whole position as regards fortune-telling is stupidly unsatisfactory. Here is a lady who is pretty widely known in Society openly practising the art of palmistry and clairvoyance, which, according to the law, is illegal.

She does nothing to hide the fact. She charges what I think is a preposterous sum and the police take no notice of it.

Before I left, the seer mentioned to me, in parentheses, that she "didn't do this for a living." Well, it must be fine sport getting mugs like me at five shillings, half-a-guinea and a guinea a time. No need to make a living.

THE CHRISTMAS QUERY SOLVED



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A SISTER'S SAD SECRET

Mother's Faith in Her Son

by PHILIP INMAN

TO-DAY I have had a soul-gripping experience. I have been talking to a woman who is not likely to live for more than two or three days. She knows it—and yet there is no fear in her eyes and no regret in her heart. She is buoyed up by a great expectation.

The European War had robbed her of her only boy and death is to give him back to her. Calmly she says, "Life has not been the same without him and it will be heaven seeing him again."

There is just one blot on her happiness—she is leaving behind a daughter, and the only time sorrow darkens her face is when she thinks of her.

It was this girl who, a day or two ago, came to ask my advice. In the family cupboard there was a skeleton and she was the only one who knew of its presence. Should she tell her mother before it was too late?

* * *

She handed to me a letter and I am not ashamed to say that as I read it I felt gripped by a strange emotion. It came from her brother just before his death in France:

"I hope that this may reach you," it said, "as with my own hand I want to send a word of farewell. From others you will no doubt hear of my end. You will know that I have been court-martialled and shot as a coward. 'Desertion in the face of the enemy,' that is the charge brought against me and, alas, it is only too true.

"I can scarcely believe it. It seems as if I am dreaming and that I shall wake up to the hellishness of the trenches again. My God, I couldn't stand that. Better this, though it is cruel for you and how you will bear it I can't even think. . . . .

"Do you remember when we were kids, the day I climbed to the top of the ladder when they were repairing the roof? I got the funk and you came up and helped me down. You teased me and said that you would tell mother I was a coward. Out here I got the funk, too, but there was no one to help me out.

"I can only pray that mother will never hear of my cowardice, as I think it would break her heart. It will be a job I know, but do try and keep it from her."

The letter ended with some private messages too intimate for me to divulge, but they revealed only too plainly the sensitive soul of the writer.

From his sister I learnt more of this boy. Whilst still a child he had lost his father and there had been no man's hand to guide him. Educated privately at home, as he was too delicate to go to school, he had never mixed with other boys and knew nothing of the rush-and tumble of life.

To transport such a lad to the "Bloody Fields of Flanders" was like taking a hot-house plant and expecting it to grow amidst the withering blasts of a wilderness. Warfare, what crimes are committed in thy name!

It was not difficult to advise this girl. There was only one thing to do—the secret must be kept and the mother allowed to retain her faith in her boy.

* * *

This patient has just passed through the gate into the unknown. I have never seen a more peaceful death. With one hand enclasped in that of her daughter's, she held fast with the other a photograph of her boy.

So she has passed into the presence of the Great Court-martial where "to know all is to forgive all." In that reunion mother and son will gaze into each other's eyes and will understand without a word.

The Sentence of the Court

The Doctors' Dilemma

A Jolt for a Junta

HAVING pleaded "Not guilty" to a charge of assisting in the conduct of an illegal business—to wit, the manufacture of "criminals"—Sir Donald MacAlister, president of the General Medical Council, asked for his name to be suppressed lest he should be charged with seeking to advertise himself. The request we refused.

* * *

"I am glad," began Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "that I have not to refer to the accused as 'Mr. A.,' though to the general public he is probably as much a 'mystery man' as was the potentate in the days of his anonymity.

"Sir Donald is the septuagenarian president of the General Medical Council, which was created for the protection of the public against medical quacks, but which seems to have lost sight of its pristine functions and spends much of its time persecuting doctors in the sacred name of medical etiquette.

"On the subject of 'indirect advertising' its views are as strong as its vision is weak. A doctor who discovers a new method of treatment has only to mention it in the presence of a journalist (even though the latter be a patient) to risk a charge of 'infamous conduct.' In fact, the safest course for a doctor who discovered a cure for (say) clergyman's sore throat would be to bury the cure in his backyard.

"A code of etiquette which causes an aged and respected physician to be struck off the register for aiding a famous alleviator of suffering like Sir Herbert Barker—on the ground that Sir Herbert is an incompetent blackleg—is on a par with that which would prevent a citizen rescuing a drowning woman because they had not been introduced."

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said the preservation of a doctor's dignity was of primary importance. No doctor could preserve his dignity if he associated with journalists. To use his pen for any purpose other than to write prescriptions was as bad as for him to use his knife to eat his gravy.

* * *

"Obviously," said Mr. Justice Bull, "the palsied hand of medical conservatism is not on the public pulse, and the sooner laymen are given places on the General Medical Council the better.

"The Act under which the Council was constituted provided for this, but of the forty persons who now compose this venerable junta not one is a layman while a number of its members are almost as old as the ills that flesh is heir to.

"Seemingly, doctors may obtain wide press publicity by talking nonsense about the wearing of silk stockings by flappers or the playing of golf by tired business men without being suspected of employing the sweet uses of advertisement; but when a medical man writes, or provides the material for, a serious article in the lay press he is immediately accused of trying to advertise himself.

"The offence of 'indirect advertising' was only created a couple of years ago, and this leads cynics to think that when doctors are too old to trouble about inventing new diseases they take to inventing new crimes.

* * *

"The prisoner is sentenced to amputation of his moss-grown prejudices and compulsory inoculation against heresy-itis, which threatens to assume epidemic form among the greybeards of the G.M.C."

Cartoonettes and Topical Jingles

by FRANK HOLLAND

Of late my luck has come unstuck,
For now they've signed this Pact
I shall, I fear, be told to "clear"—
In other words—be sacked!"

The British zone around Cologne
Our troops have now vacated,
And soon (perhaps!) those other chaps
May be repatriated!

Towards L.G. the dour "Wee Free"
Has feelings far from hearty,
For wily George will not disgorge
His funds to serve the Party.

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G8467	Concertina Medley. Introducing Eight Popular Songs	Concertina Solos by Alexander Prince
G8468	When You and I Were Seventeen, Waltz / Yearning, Fox-Trot	Corona Dance Orch.
G8473	Uncle Ned / Goodbye, Liza Jane	Harry C. Browne, Baritone. (With Banjo)
G8475	He's in the Arms of Jesus / Holy, Holy, Holy	Vocal Duet Brooklyn Quartette
G8476	When You and I Were Seventeen / You Forget to Remember	Thos. Jackson, Tenor
G8478	I Miss My Swiss / Ukulele Lady	The Two Gilberts, Comedians Tom Gilbert, Baritone
G8481	Sunny Havana / Smile All the While	Fred Douglas, Baritone

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Words Winged to Women

THE MEN IN THE MUD

A Watch Committee in Blinkers

by **MABEL HORNER**

YORKSHIRE is the birthplace of many a homely phrase of feeling and thought. Such is the nick-name, "Old Stick-i'-the-mud," applied with equal impartiality to those, men or women, who, because of antiquated ideas or inherited prejudice, hinder the wheels of progress from going round.

Thousands of women during the last few weeks have been thinking of the Plymouth Watch Committee as being largely composed of "stick-in-the-muds."

All nationalities of men find passing harbour there. Like all such townships, Plymouth calls for special care and special measures to be taken by those concerned in its welfare.

It is but a few days ago that Mr. Justice Rowlatt, in passing sentence on a man convicted of a horrible offence against little girls, expressed himself appalled at the awful increase in this ghastly crime. He said bluntly that a large proportion of such cases dealt with in his courts were coming there from Plymouth.

Undeterred by rebuff

Plymouth was aroused—a good sign. The Churches took the matter up. Voices were raised in indignation, just a few in hot denials. More to the point was the action of the women citizens. Headed by Plymouth's woman M.P., Lady Astor, they decided upon practical steps to cleanse the town.

Young girls and little children should be protected, said they, and to this end a certain number of well-educated, well-trained and sympathetic women police must be employed.

The women, proving their right to citizenship in the truest sense of the word, got a smack in the face. Plymouth, in the person of Mr. H. H. Sanders, possesses a Chief Constable who in this matter prefers to stick in the mud. Mr. H. H. Sanders said "No; there shall be no women police."

The women did not take this dictum lying down. Headed by Lady Astor, M.P., the Bishop of Plymouth, and many other influential persons and public bodies, a petition was prepared praying "for the appointment of women police in view of the number of child assaults that have recently occurred in Plymouth."

Wooden-headed deduction

The Watch Committee considered the petition, and by a large majority rejected its appeal. Women police, said they, have been tried in Plymouth before and found wanting. According to one more outspoken opponent, the net result of two years' work of two policewomen was one summons for allowing a chimney to be on fire and another against a defendant whose dog was at large without a collar.

Such trivial gibes are best ignored. The important fact is that, because these two policewomen could show no florid and exciting details, no evidence of big arrests, Plymouth, in its present state of danger to young girls and little children, is to have no more help from the uniformed women.

No more wooden-headed deduction ever blocked progressive policy. It is clear that women police are not out to trump up cases and win promotion by fussy interference where unnecessary. It is evident that the very lack of lurid detail shows the policewomen to have been successful in what is their chief object, the prevention of sexual crime.

On this head we have the unimpeachable testimony of Commandant Mary Allen and the noble band of women who worked with her during the terrible days of unsettling laxity in wartime.

Still more striking is the evidence of Sir Leonard Dunning, H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for England and Wales, who, giving evidence of the value of the policewomen in such cases, says:

Commandant Mary S. [illegible], O.B.E., who in her book, "The Pioneer Policewoman," gives a remarkable narrative of the inception and progress of the Women Police Force

"In regard to the two evils of child crime and prostitution, preventive work can be done by policewomen. She can speak as no man can speak without risking accusation of undue interference. She can often save foolish girls from themselves."

Where women succeed

Naturally, since crimes of immorality concern two sexes, policewomen must not be considered as appointed only to deal with this question. In this as in all their work, it is intended that they should work in close co-operation with their male colleagues.

But their appointment does mean a great deal of sympathetic help to girls and children in danger, and the great pity is that the Plymouth Watch Committee does not see it in this light.

Birth-Control Fallacies

by **DR. MARIE STOPES** (*President of the Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress, Author of "Married Love"*)

DR. STOPES is writing a series of articles on topics of vital interest to women. She invites correspondence, and readers' queries addressed to her at this office will be dealt with as speedily as possible if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

MOST decent people, being now convinced that birth-control knowledge should be available for the poor, and particularly for the very poorest, are now perturbed about the actual methods which should be used.

Recently almost an epidemic of questions was addressed to our organisation on this subject. In one way or another, in effect, what many are saying is:—"Yes, it is all very well for comfortably off women, with several-roomed houses and bathrooms, to use birth-control methods, but what about the poor?

"Even if they could afford to spend the few necessary shillings to buy what they require in the first instance, the very poor cannot use them in the miserable tenements or single-room dens which they have instead of proper homes."

* * *

WELL, if that were true (and fortunately it is not), would it not be a strong argument for seeing that they had decent homes? Homes should all be at least decent enough to give the women in them power to use an important safeguard for the race and the necessary comforts for all aspects of their maternity.

But building homes means a long delay at the very best. It would, indeed, be a sad thing for motherhood if, in addition to all the misery of living in these wretched homes, the poorest of our women were to feel that they were helplessly liable to the invasion of unwanted little babies whom they could not feed.

* * *

FORTUNATELY, though good houses are of immense importance, we do not have to wait for them to be built before being able to give the even more fundamental help of a means of controlling conception to the poorest dwellers.

Sometimes a very miserable mother will tell the nurse at the Constructive Birth Control clinic: "But I have nowhere in the whole place where I can keep a thing like that to myself."

But they *can* find an old pickle-jar or jam-jar and put it on the top of a cupboard or on the mantelpiece, or on a little shelf specially put up high in a corner. Add to the jam-jar a pennyworth of some simple disinfectant, and that is all the houseroom required.

Those who only know vaguely about these methods think that much more equipment is necessary than is really required. This is because so many of those offering advice advocate complicated douches and ablutions of various sorts, which I consider to be not in the least necessary.

In most cases they ought only to be used with special medicaments for special diseases, and should not be used for ordinary birth control. Yet some of those interested in birth control have so consistently advocated their general use that the public has become confused.

Hence many people have the impression that a long time of privacy to make arrangements, and all sorts of difficulties are involved in the use of contraceptives.

Nothing of the sort is essential. Less than a minute by herself is all that is needed for the application of any of the two or three best methods of birth control. Any woman in the world has that.

* * *

THE truth is that even those interested in birth control are still hypnotised by the idea of its *difficulty* and complication.

This reduces them to a state of nervous prostration when the subject looms up as a great mountain of anxiety, whereas it should be in the minds of all of us a simple pathway leading to all that means success and happiness in motherhood and marriage.

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Meltis CHOCOLATE CREAMY FRUITS

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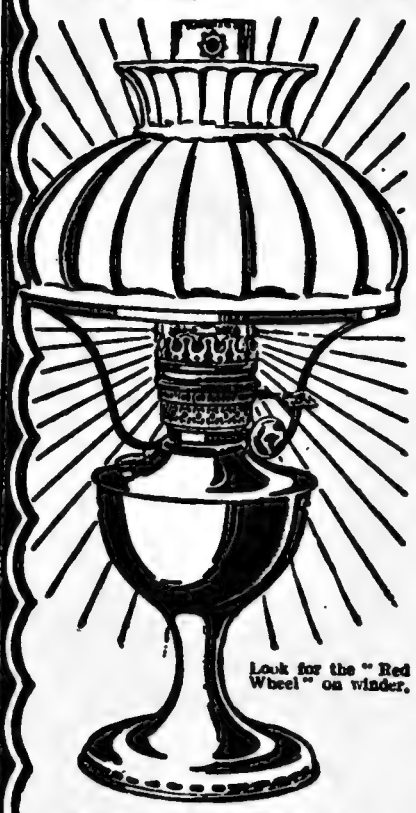

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One extra mantle with each lamp.

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When girls grow weak, pale and miserable, parents should not neglect these symptoms, for to do so means danger. The girl in her teens cannot develop into robust, healthy, womanhood without abundant, rich blood in her veins. The one remedy which has achieved world wide fame for its remarkable blood-making properties is Dr. Williams' pink pills. In these pills there is vigorous health, with glowing cheeks and sparkling eyes, for every girl who is struggling on to womanhood in a wretched state of health.

Mrs. Hancock, of 279, Hotwell Road, Bristol, says: "My daughter Beatrice was very anæmic. She looked pale and run-down, and was always tired and depressed; she suffered from bad headaches and dizziness. She was under a doctor for weeks, but her health did not improve. A district health nurse advised Dr. Williams' pink pills. After Beatrice had taken one box of the pills, there was a great change for the better. She continued with the pills, and before long the depression, giddiness and tiredness disappeared, and now she is enjoying splendid health."

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Real Seamless Woven Guaranteed Genuine Bargains

Carriage 1/- extra.

Suitable for Drawing-room, Dining-room, Bedroom, etc., handsomely bordered in thirty Turkey patterns & fashionable self shades of Crimson, Greens, Blues and Art Colourings, to suit all requirements and large enough to cover any ordinary sized room CARPETS

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These Carpets with FREE RUGS will be sent out as sample Carpets, showing you the identical quality we supply. They are made of material equal to wool, and being a speciality of our own, can only be obtained direct from our Looms, thus saving the purchaser all middle profits. Over 400,000 sold during the past 12 months. Money willingly returned if not approved. Thousands of Repeat Orders and Unsolicited Testimonials received. With every carpet we shall absolutely give away a very handsome rug to match. Gigantic Illustrated Bargain Catalogue of Carpets, Hearthrugs, Bedsteads, Bedding, Table Linens, Curtains, etc., post free, mentioning "John Bull." 12/12/25, when writing. Established over Half a Century.

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Human Documents

The Man Without a Smile

Redeeming the Past—A Brother's Dilemma—Dishonesty's Reward

"ONE constantly reads in newspapers of cases in which a husband has been cruel, but never have I come across a stated case of a wife's cruelty and vindictiveness, yet there are hundreds of such cases, as I know personally by sad experience at home, in the court and in prison.

"What a hopeless future lies before a man who is condemned to pay alimony year in and year out, no matter whether he earns it or not.

"When a man is cursed with a vindictive wife, what hope has he got when appearing in court for arrears caused by illness, unemployment, or unwillingness to pay? No hope whatever except a holiday in prison. Again, I say, I speak from experience.

"MY own case is only one of hundreds. I have been without my wife for nearly four years For one year I continually asked for a reconciliation, making only one condition, that a relative of hers should leave the house.

"No success attended my efforts, and consequently I was compelled to pay separation allowance, which leaves me a beggar, practically in rags, and dependent upon other people for cast-off clothing.

"Do you not think that, where it is found impossible for two people to come together again after a reasonable period, they should be left in absolute freedom?

"Honestly and sincerely, I am depressed to the point of heart-break. My workmates call me 'the man without a smile.' How can I smile after fifty hours slogging on the roads for the magnificent sum of £2 a week, from which I am compelled to send 15s. to court, and pay 24s. for my board and lodging.

"MY last two weeks' earnings, owing to illness, were only 7s 9d. and 30s. respectively, and this week, nothing up till to-day; yet, if I do not send my 15s., I am doomed to two months' imprisonment for arrears of £7, and this is stated to be a most lenient sentence, awarded because I have tried to keep up my payments.

"Can you wonder that thoughts of going before the highest judge of all, in the hope of receiving the justice that is now denied me, pass through my mind?"

"HUMANIST" says:—*I am aware that separation orders frequently operate with great hardship on husbands, and that many wives attempt to force the payment of alimony with the utmost vindictiveness. Generally speaking, however, the court will not order imprisonment for arrears accumulated through sheer inability to pay, and the police-court missionaries usually exercise kindly supervision of such cases to prevent injustice. I agree that a husband who is really victimised should be able to obtain his freedom after a reasonable period.*

* * *

"GLANCING casually at a copy of JOHN BULL in a public-house, I came across your answer regarding 'A Worthless Son.' I believe that I am that worthless son, and I realise I fully deserve the bitterness which your reply brings me.

Prodigal's Return

"I feel convinced that it was my dearest mother who wrote to you, and your answer has gone right home, and made me feel what a cad I have been.

"I have more than once genuinely intended to do better, but I seem to consist of two separate selves—one well intentioned, the other a very bad one—and the bad one generally predominates.

"When I read your reply, I was feeling that it was utterly futile to try to reform, but the thought that my mother was so grieved as to have been moved to write to you has given me a ray of hope.

"I have written to my parents just a line asking them if they will forgive me just once more. I have made my own hell, and lived in it, but I will try to reverse your advice if it is at all possible.

"Can you help me? Is it possible to eradicate the drinking, gambling, betting and borrowing streak that has been my ruin, and led me, after being brought up in comfort and cleanliness, with nice associations, to drift to dens of drink and infamy? I am sick of myself.

"My people must know my low haunts, and have probably seen me slinking to my lodgings, stupefied with drink, night after night.

"I have been too ashamed to visit my parents for months now, deteriorated in appearance, carelessly dressed, and in a general condition of dull indifference. Do you think, 'Humanist,' there is hope that anyone will again receive such as I?"

"HUMANIST" says: *The fact that your conscience is not quite still is the best hope that you will recover your self respect. Man has never fathomed the depth of a mother's love, or her willingness to forgive. Take as a motto the saying of Confucius, which I have found to be a beacon-light to backsliders, "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."*

* * *

"I AM the youngest of three children, and after the death of my father, acute family difficulties developed, as the result of which I left home and enlisted in the Army.

Brother's Duty

"I have been happy enough during four years of military service. Three years ago, on the point of being drafted abroad, I visited my old home with some idea of effecting a reconciliation, but I found the family had moved.

"A neighbour told me that I had not been much missed, so I sailed away without giving them further thought.

"While visiting another unit, and glancing over photographs in a non-commissioned officer's quarters, I was surprised to find one of my sister. I learned that she was engaged to him, and I obtained her address, but I was horrified at the lewd manner in which he spoke of her, and on making enquiries I discovered that he was a notorious evil liver.

"Do you think I should warn my sister, who is probably in ignorance of his true character, of the sort of man she contemplates marrying?"

"HUMANIST" says:—*I do not think you should allow old differences to interfere with your duty towards your sister. Telling her what you know need not involve your abandoning what you believe to be a correct attitude towards the rest of the family, but it would be a matter for congratulation if your action resulted in reconciliation.*

YOUR XMAS GIFT FROM "JOHN BULL."

See page 2

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." In every case the name and address of the writer are suppressed so that the authors may not be identified. In cases that are too intimate or are not of sufficient interest to be helpful to others, correspondents must send stamped addressed envelopes if they wish to be answered through the post. Ten shillings is sent to each of the writers of the first four letters printed.

"A FEW years ago, I occupied a responsible position with a large firm. I had been in its employment for ten years, and I enjoyed the confidence and respect of the principals.

Ungrateful Accomplice

"During the War, I was approached by a merchant who wished to obtain some of the large orders which I controlled at that time. He offered me a generous commission if I would place the bulk of the business with him, and I am sorry to say that I succumbed to the temptation.

"This illicit arrangement continued until 1921, when I was dismissed in consequence of a difference with one of the principals, who knew nothing of the secret commission I had been drawing.

"Since then I have had very little employment, and, worse still, I have been cold-shouldered by the man who profited to the tune of thousands of pounds by my participation in his scheme.

"Last week, rendered desperate by want after a fruitless search for work, I went to the office of my old accomplice and begged of him to assist me in some way. He refused any help, and told me that he would report me to the police for blackmail if I approached him again.

"I have never thought of blackmailing him, but I feel strongly inclined now to go to my former employers and tell them the whole of the circumstances, knowing that, even if I were punished, my ungrateful fellow-wrongdoer would have to suffer as well, if I did so."

"HUMANIST" says:—*It would be extremely unwise for you to do as you suggest. You cannot hope to benefit yourself thereby, and harbouring thoughts of revenge will only embitter your life.*

* * *

Bad Boy

"My boy is only eleven years old, but he seems to be quite beyond my control and he has taken to stealing money at every opportunity, and telling the most barefaced lies when found out. Can you tell me of a home in which I can put him?"

"Humanist" says:—*Do not send the lad away if you can possibly help it. He is just at an age when the wrong sort of treatment might prove disastrous. Talk to his schoolmaster, who may be able to suggest disciplinary measures which would be effective.*

Vanished Australian

"My sister married an Australian who went back to his country after the Armistice, and she has heard nothing of him since. Is it not possible for her to obtain a divorce on the ground of his desertion?"

"Humanist" says:—*You should communicate with the High Commissioner for Australia, at Australia House, Strand, London, W.C. 2, who will take steps to trace your husband, if he is alive, so that he may be compelled to carry out his obligations.*

No Secret Borrowing

"I am arranging to borrow money to carry me over a period of depression in business, but I find, from previous experience, that other people will know that there is a bill of sale on my effects. Is there no means of stopping the publication of this?"

"Humanist" says:—*All bills of sale have to be registered, and it is only right that the public should have access to the register, as otherwise many dishonest people might try to borrow several times over on the same security.*

FELLOWS WIRELESS

BUY BY POST
SAVE 6/8 IN THE £1

Under the new policy recently inaugurated by the Fellows Magneto Co., the middleman's profit has been entirely eliminated, and all the well-known products of this firm are now offered to the public at what are **practically Trade Prices.** All goods are fully guaranteed and sent on **Seven Days' Approval** against Cash. Goods also are sent packing free, carriage forward, unless postage is stated. This is a unique opportunity and one which the judicious purchaser cannot afford to miss. Fill in the coupon to-day and post to us.

THE LITTLE GIANT TWO-VALVE SET.

Easily the cheapest and most efficient two-valve set on the market. Combines ease of operation, simplicity of tuning and extreme selectivity. Has given entire satisfaction to thousands of listeners.

Set complete includes H.T. Battery (9/-), 6-v. Accumulator (20/-), 2 Louden Valves (6/6 each), Aerial and Insulators (3/6), and FELLOWS JUNIOR LOUD-SPEAKER as illustrated (19/6).

Set only ... £3 15 0
Set complete ... £6 15 0
Marconi Royalty paid.

THE VOLUTONE LOUD-SPEAKER.

Without doubt the finest value obtainable in Loud-Speakers. **The adjustable diaphragm** gives you the rich clear tones associated with instruments of several times the price. In addition its pleasing lines and graceful proportions make it one of the most attractive-looking Loud-Speakers on the market.

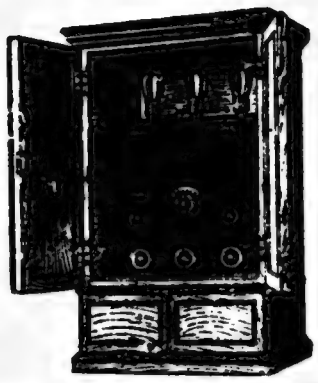
Price 55/-

THE FELLOPHONE THREE-VALVE GRAND.

One of the outstanding successes of the Fellows Company. An ingenious circuit arrangement obtains for it the full power and range of a four-valve set at the far lower initial cost and running expenses of an ordinary three-valve set.

Its handsome cabinet, which is fitted with folding doors, provides an exceptionally attractive setting for it, and eliminates entirely the untidiness usually associated with wireless sets. The set complete comprises H.T. Battery, 6-v. Accumulator (25/-), 1 pair of Headphones (11/6), 3 Louden Valves (6/6 each), Aerial and Insulators (3/6).

Set only ... £11 17 6
Set complete ... £14 10 0
Marconi Royalty paid.



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Cumberland Avenue, Park Royal, Willesden, N.W.10.

Herewith Remittance Value.....

Please forward me.....

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on conditions as per your advertisement.

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ADDRESS .....

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Please write clearly in **BLOCK LETTERS** and register Cash or Treasury Notes.

J.B. 12.12.25.

E.F.S. 200.

The Man who smokes with appreciation —to whom cool, sweet smoking, flavour and aroma of fine quality, are matters of moment—will find his ideals realised in Morris's *"Blends."*

To meet different tastes there are five different "Blends" — each distinctive in flavour and aroma.

B. MORRIS & SONS, Ltd., makers of High-Grade Cigarettes for 135 years.

TURKISH
Fragrant Dubec Tobaccos.

HAVANA
with the fine flavour of a choice Havana Cigar.

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Light smoking and aromatic.

RUSSIAN
For sensitive throats.

VIRGINIA
Choice Carolina Tobaccos.

20 for 1/-
of all tobacconists.

Keep your boys at home

You can have your own billiard table by sending a P.O. for 14/-

Think what a Riley "Home" Billiard Table would mean in your home during the long Winter evenings, and send a postal order to-night. You will receive the popular size 6 ft. "Home" Billiard Table (Cash Price £11 15s. 0d.) to rest on your dining table, carriage paid and in free packing case. The balance you pay monthly while you play. Other sizes are shown opposite.

RILEY'S "HOME" BILLIARD TABLES

are built on the same principle as the famous Riley's Full-size Tables, and yield a perfect game. These are the various sizes:

4 ft. 4 in. x 2 ft. 4 in.	£7 0s.	or in 18 monthly payments of	8/6	
5 ft. 4 in. x 2 ft. 10 in.	£9 0s.		11/-	
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7 ft. 4 in. x 3 ft. 10 in.	£15 0s.		18/-	
8 ft. 4 in. x 4 ft. 4 in.	£21 10s.		26/-	

RILEY'S "COMBINE" BILLIARD and DINING TABLES.

Perfect in every detail. Easily adjusted in a few seconds. Supplied in any shade to match your furniture. Cash prices from £22 10s. or in 15 or 20 monthly payments.

7 Days' Free Trial Given.

Riley's are the well-known makers of large tables for Hotels, Clubs, Institutes, etc. Write for particulars. Also Repairs and Accessories.

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Motor Cycle Models

14 in. x 14 in. 51/6
13 in. x 13 in. 45/6
11½ in. x 11½ in. 37/6

Give rider's weight when ordering.

Herbert Terry & Sons, Ltd., Redditch, Eng. Est. 1856.

Cuticura Shaving Stick Produces A Creamy Lasting Lather

It is delicately medicated and contains soothing, emollient properties which make it a necessity for tender-faced men and for those who shave twice daily.

Soap 1s. Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Talcum 1s. 3d. For sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 31, Banner St., London, E.C.1. Cuticura Shaving Stick 1s. 3d.

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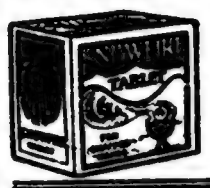
The ideal weather protection for hands and lips is Snowfire Tablet. Just rub it in. Soothes instantly. Removes redness and roughness and prevents skin from chapping or cracking.

USE **Snowfire** TABLET



In 3d. Tablets. Family size 7½d. Also in nickel containers, 6d. & 1/-
Snowfire Soap is the Complexion Soap.

DEPENDABLE OVERCOATS

We offer you the finest value in the trade. Every garment of guaranteed Quality, Fit and Finish.

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In two sizes, 6d. and 1/-

From all Ironmongers, Stores, Cycle Agents and Garages, or direct from:—

SILICO ENAMEL CO., Warton Road, Stratford E.

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Banners to Wave—Tongues that Wag—Treasury Trials

Brief to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited. 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential, not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

Home Secretary's Choice

"A Gentleman with a Duster," in his article "Out with their Names!" leaves the Home Secretary with no other choice than to use every endeavour to rid our cities of persons who trade in sensuality. It is shameful that such degrading vice should be allowed to thrive in our land. Let the police blot out these dens of sin is the plea of all decent people. All good citizens would be proud to have a Home Secretary who dared to take this stand against beastliness.—*Fred O. Smith, Seaham.*

Natural Rot

Your contributor states the "truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," and the publication of names would do more good than any number of policemen. They dare not do many things they would like to do, but once the Home Secretary did it and got public opinion behind him, the matter could be accomplished. Vice is vice and nothing else. All talk of immoral doings being "natural" is rot. They are just as much an evil as gambling or stealing.—*J. H., Lancs.*

Humbug and Hypocrisy

"Out with their Names!" says "A Gentleman with a Duster" of patrons of vice. Easier said than done, however. It could be done, of course, but some mighty reputations—unless all the rumours one hears are absolutely baseless—would be shattered and not only Britain but the whole world would stand aghast. Here, then, may be found one reason for the Home Secretary's inactivity in this direction—so that other countries may not have the opportunity of calling, as they should do and in no low tones, moral Britain a nation of hypocrites and humbugs.—*Old Reader, N.B.*

A Righteous Campaign

The vast body of the nation is wholeheartedly in support of decency and morality. If really good men such as the Prime Minister and Home Secretary are not strong enough to oppose the forces of monied vice, then the organised pressure of public opinion must be brought to bear and force action. The nation as a whole is only waiting for a strong lead. The publication of such an article as "Out with their Names!" is worse than useless unless it is the beginning of a campaign to force the Home Secretary's hand.—*P. B., Devon.*

Open Shame

It is appalling to see so many of our young girls being led into a life of shame so openly. Drastic methods must be used by the Home Secretary to stamp out the soul-destroying thing. There certainly seems to be something keeping him back. Let him come forward like a man, and do his very utmost to stop this violating of the laws of decency. The sooner the people of the country realise that our young girls must be protected, the better the land will be for it.—*Protection, Middlesbrough.*

Gilded Iniquity

Decent-minded opinion should voice an emphatic demand for a clean sweep of the gilded palaces of iniquity that offend the morals of every true Britisher. However influential and highly placed be those patrons to whom exposure would be undesirable, the Home Secretary has a duty before him and a clean-spirited public behind him. He should also bear in mind the less pretentious, but none the less vicious, houses that degrade every seaport town.—*C. J. B., Cardiff.*

Demoralising Knowledge

Does not "A Gentleman with a Duster" over-estimate the dangers of some of London's vice-spots? The average man about town (and I am one of them) certainly does not know of such places. If he seeks them out, it surely proves that he is already demoralised. I do not think that Britain will ever be genuinely immoral. Our national failing is drink; and even that terrible weakness shows signs of improvement. —*P. Beaufoy, London.*

Stigma of Defeat

The moral conscience of the people will not always prick. Now is the time for strong action. Full authority must be given to the police to stamp out the crying evils of our streets. Is British justice to admit the stigma of defeat from the rascals who flourish on the profits of their vile and infamous dens? Let Sir William Joynson-Hicks bring these rascals to book.—*Clean Heart, Scotland.*

Moral Murder

That magistrates should show such leniency as that recently shown to the youth Di Dominico, and that Church workers should attempt to defend him, passes the comprehension of any sane person. Our law demands that a murderer should pay for his offence with his life. Is it not "moral murder" to commit such an assault as Di Dominico pleaded guilty to? Why should he escape the consequences?—*N. Y., Birmingham.*

Devilries' Death-blow

Mr. Gardiner's statement that submarines and poison-gas are devilries of war and an insult to humanity is indeed true. By "humanity" is meant the people. Why do not the people rise up and demand the abolition of these "devilries"? All honour to such men as Mr. Mackinnon for their outspoken protests, as also to JOHN BULL; but it is the voice of the people that must be heard. Let us have processions, with banners inscribed "No More War," "No Submarines," "No Poison Gas," in every country, and these devilries will receive their deserved death-blow.—*W. M. S., London.*

Printers' Pie

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie.")

"BRISTOL EVENING TIMES":—"He entered a room where 35 of the guests had assembled in EQUAL numbers of both sexes."

"HOME":—"Her black hair was coiled in two shining plaited coils round her EYES."

"LIVERPOOL WEEKLY POST":—"Its WINTER circulation was 8,000 to 9,000 weekly, but in the FOOTBALL SEASON it was 32,000."

"DUNDEE EVENING TELEGRAPH":—"The cars RUSHED into each other, but fortunately were travelling at a very SLOW speed."

"GRIMSBY DAILY TELEGRAPH":—"His fiancée is then RESCUED by a murderous gang, but he effects her RESCUE."

Insurance Rates

Your scathing comments on industrial insurance were not one whit too strong. The enormous wealth and influence of the larger corporations is a menace in itself. Graver still is the iniquitous ruthlessness with which they batten on the poor. In this respect they run the moneylenders very close. Lapsing is robbery of the most impudent kind. Failing nationalisation of the business its immediate overhaul by Parliament is imperative.—*Cigaret, Northants.*

Easier Divorce

"The Vicar's Nightmare," by Lady Marion Weller, is only too true. A vicar I know erred in the choice of his wife. Her story is—jazz, immorality, husband's desertion, money by false pretences, prison. A villager showed the Sunday newspaper report of the police-court proceedings to the vicar, since when tongues have wagged uneasily. Divorce and a move on would be a godsend to him. But the Church's narrow-mindedness enfetters his soul.—*X.Y.Z., Surrey.*

Landlords' Liability

With reference to your campaign against the undesirable night-clubs, opium-dens, etc., it appears to me that a large diminution in their number would immediately follow an intimation from the authorities that the landlords of the premises would be liable to prosecution. Leases are seldom granted without some stipulation as to the business to be carried on in a building, and I imagine high rentals are charged accordingly.—*W. F. S., Clapham.*

Village Monopolists

Let the Food Council see to it that they direct their attention to the rampant profiteering that exists in small towns and villages to a much larger extent than it does in large towns. The local shopkeepers have matters entirely in their own hands. They combine to keep out the "multiple shop" and others who would bring prices down, and give service which is of the "take it or leave it" order.—*Sufferer, Budleigh Salterton.*

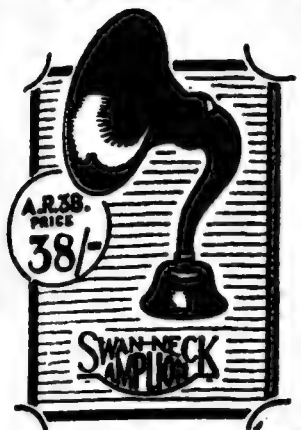
Pensions' Muddle

Mabel Horner has done well to draw attention to the difficulties of understanding the Pensions Bill. What the Government ought to do is to issue cards stating the leading features. These cards should be given out to each insured contributor, either through the Employment Exchanges or the approved societies of the country. By this means every member would have the Government's printed version, which would enable them to rely on it, and not on garbled versions.—*J. H., Bolton.*

Patience Tested

I have shown your article on fair play for the Government clerk to several in our office, and we are all exceedingly pleased that JOHN BULL has taken up the cudgels on behalf of the Civil Servants and given a truthful statement of the facts. It is well known inside the service that the Treasury, especially of late years, has adopted a most unsympathetic attitude concerning the pay and general conditions of the Government clerks, and some of their latest methods of dealing with grievances in the Civil Service might have driven a less patient and faithful type of worker into the throes of a general strike. The patience of the Civil servant is now bordering upon exhaustion.—*Civil Servant, Newcastle.*

Senior Performance — Junior Price



A Junior AMPLION—well designed—well made. An inexpensive but highly efficient instrument giving excellent results.

The World's Standard
AMPLION
Wireless Loud-Speaker.

Obtainable from AMPLION STOCKISTS, Radio Dealers or Stores.

Patentees and Manufacturers:
ALFRED GRAHAM & Co (E. A. Grs., Ltd.)
Crofton Park, London, S.E.4.

Films That Speak

by Professor A. M. LOW, Fellow of the Radio Association

QUITE a stir has been created by the recent demonstration of the talking film. I suppose the time will be with us before long when our broadcasting is of talking films instead of music, but at present they are not, in my opinion, all that could be desired. The reason is that to-day we cannot reproduce every sound perfectly.

* * *

The interest of the listener—I have it from the B.B.C. that they wish to abolish the double-barrelled word "listener-in"—is now centred upon the work of the Broadcasting Committee.

It is suggested that the Government authorities are endeavouring to take the wireless programme out of the hands of the B.B.C. Personally, I can conceive nothing more unlikely.

It is very evident that the Government must have a large measure of control in wireless transmission to prevent music and speeches from interfering with Imperial Services. Apart from this proviso the listener must admit that it would be hard to improve upon the present B.B.C. organisation.

* * *

THE subject of oscillation has become rather prominent now that so many people try to "tune in" distant stations. Beyond teaching the public that oscillation is not only bad for others, but also spoils their own reception, nothing much can be done.

Those bodies who represent the listener, such as the Wireless League, can receive details as to the whereabouts of persistent oscillators and can then place the facts before the Postmaster-General.

There is another direction in which an organisation of listeners can be of real service. They can allot certificates to traders and dealers and by this means they can protect the trustworthy wireless agent against the "mushroom" firm which too often has for its motto, "It's your money we want."

* * *

I AM often asked why it is that with a non-insulated earth-wire the tuning position of dials varies so much, and this is very noticeable on crystal sets. When a bare wire is allowed to rest near to the wood or stone work of a house, the electrical capacity effect is constantly varying with the amount of moisture in the atmosphere.

It is, therefore, desirable for the earth to be definitely earthed at as short a distance as is possible from the receiving-set and for the wire from the earth itself to be as straight as possible. Do not allow the earth wire to rest casually against various objects. Let it be either an insulated wire or a definite earth.

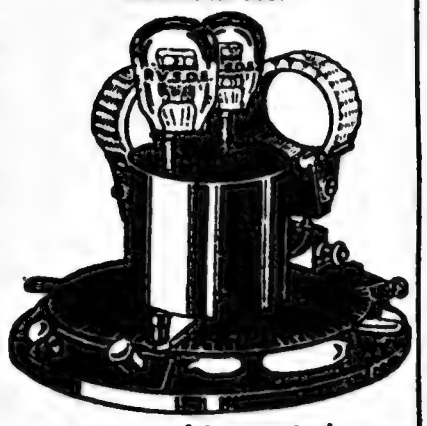
* * *

Quite one of the most interesting pieces of apparatus of the week is the new "Ella" accumulator charger. It takes current from the ordinary house main at, for example, 200 volts and acting as a rotary converter reduces the voltage ready for accumulator charging.

Very little wastage occurs, there is practically no loss by heat such as is experienced with resistances, and the net result is that batteries can be kept charged and in thoroughly good working order for a cost of two or three pence each week.

The Set for the Million

Low price and astounding Loud-Speaker reproduction make this "Compactum" Circular 2-valve Receiver a most popular Set. The price of 11 gns includes accessories and Loud Speaker — complete. Set ready for immediate use.



Ask to see this—and other
EDISWAN
WIRELESS
THE EDISON SWAN ELECTRIC CO. LTD., 123, QUEEN VICTORIA ST., LONDON E.C.4.

Your radio set can be improved by using
B.T.H. VALVES
MADE IN ENGLAND

Ask your dealer he knows that B.T.H. Valves Sets Loud Speakers Headphones & Components are the best

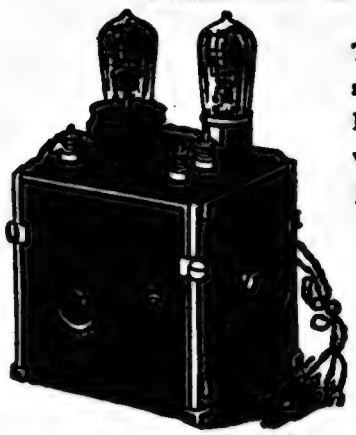
Insist on B.T.H. the Best of All

The British Thomson-Houston Co. Ltd. Crown House, Aldwych, London W.C.2

SIX TYPES

R	B3	B5	B4	B6	B7
0·7 A. 4 v. 8/-	0·35 A. 1·8 v. 14/-	0·06 A. 2·8 v. 16/6	0·25 A. 6 v. 22/6	0·12 A. 2·8 v. 22/6	0·06 A. 6 v. 24/6

The Simplest Way to all Radio's Delights



The Polar Twin will operate a loud-speaker at 60 miles from a main B.B.C. station, and practically everywhere in England will enable Daventry 5XX to be enjoyed.

It is supplied complete and ready to be attached to any good aerial. One tuning knob only; no accumulator needed. Reception is at once assured by simplest possible adjustment. Neat, easily kept clean; takes up very small space.

There are Polar Service Agents or Dealers in Polar Apparatus in every town, who will willingly demonstrate Polar-Twin in your own home, without obligation. In case of difficulty write to the manufacturers.

The complete set at £10 14s. includes the Polar Twin Receiver, (Royalty paid) 2 Mullard Polar D 3 valves; 2 H.T. Batteries, 60v. each, and Plugs; 1 O.A.V. 2v. unspillable accumulator completely charged; 1 Short-Wave Coil Unit; 1 Daventry ditto and the necessary connecting wires. Loud Speakers of standard makes can be supplied at prices from 27/6 to £5 5 0. £10-14-0

Cabinet to hold complete set and batteries 27/6 extra.

Illustrated Descriptive Folder free from your Dealer or from us.

Radio Communication Co., Ltd.,
Norfolk Street, London, W.C.2

ESTABLISHED 29 YEARS.
WHITE, FISHER & CO.
144m, WEST REGENT ST., GLASGOW.

FOOTBALL
INSURE YOUR WINNINGS BY BECOMING A "WHITEFISHERITE"
7 LEAGUES 6 LISTS
NOTHING BARRED.
AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE
Applicants from London & District can call or write:
70, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON.

RACING
No Limit. Weekly A/cs.
We pay all postage.
ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE.
WE NEVER QUIBBLE.

BET WITH THE BIG TWO!
DAVID COPE
AND
ALFRED H. MAURICE
25 North Albion St., Glasgow, C.1
Business as usual during Jumping the Season.
Letter Commissions. No Limit.
DAILY SETTLEMENTS.
Winnings by return of post.
For Credit Accounts only apply to—
DAVID COPE, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C. 4.

"SAFETY FIRST!!"
ALFRED H. MAURICE
OFFERS FREE
£250
WEEKLY FOR
NAMING FOUR TEAMS
CHALLENGER Credit Coupons
NOTHING BARRED.
NOTHING STARRED.
A Few Vacancies for Agents.
Send at once for particulars.
ALRFED H. MAURICE
THE FOOTBALL ACCOUNTANT.
19, BRIDE LANE, E.C. 4.

Trapping the Horse Doper

Bad News for "Nobblers"—Wonderful Duller—Sir Gallahad Sold for a Fortune—Mug Hunting for the Classics—Ring Tactics

I PATTED myself on the back when Repaid, my first code nap over the sticks, won at Birmingham. This selection was given from an entry of fifty-three. May it be a good omen for the future.

Bad News for Dopers

I wish sometimes our own authorities were as vigilant in dealing with abuses as are the French. The latest move on the other side is to make it compulsory for all courses to be fitted with approved machinery for testing for "dope," and no meeting may now take place without the attendance of an approved official with the necessary technical knowledge to apply these tests.

Local Stewards' Rights

In addition, local stewards have the right to take test samples of saliva from time to time whether they have had complaints or not. The owners' and trainers' association may be represented at these tests, but they must have a man on the spot ready to act at once so that there can be no trickery over warnings.

Trainers are Touchy

Trainers are very touchy when the stewards act on their own initiative; but what are stewards for? I daresay many JOHN BULL readers will recollect the Alopex incident last season. The horse's saliva was taken at a Northern meeting and the owner-trainer, O'Sullivan, threatened to sell up, lock, stock and barrel. There was nothing wrong with Alopex, but O'Sullivan was so annoyed that he advertised all his horses for sale. Like a wise man, he changed his mind.

Our Crack Hurdle Jockey

Several punters have asked me if I think it will be a paying proposition to follow George Duller's mounts over the hurdles. I do not think there will be much in it either way, for, although George always has a fine average, his rides are automatically backed down to a short price. Duller up frightens the pencillers. Motor racing at Brooklands has not taken the edge off the crack hurdle jockey's riding capabilities, and he is still employing his famous "waiting in front" tactics. George has revolutionised hurdle racing. In the old days it used to be a trot for three parts of a race and a sprint home. Nowadays, Duller keeps them on the stretch the whole way. If his mount is good enough, it wins. If it cracks, it is a spent force and finishes in the ruck. I should never back Duller each way.

George Duller

Sir Gallahad's Huge Price

Somewhere between £50,000 and £60,000 is the price paid for Sir Gallahad III., the sensational Lincolnshire winner of two years ago and conqueror of Epinard. The horse goes to America, where they are anxious to strengthen their strains with the classy blood of Ajax. Sir Gallahad has had one season at the stud in France, but there are so many good sires there now that they can afford to let him go.

Mug Hunting

There are many venturesome folk who insist upon rushing in to back their Classic hopes during the winter, and they will continue to do so until the year dot, but at least they might take the trouble to make sure that their fancies are really entered. The list men are not over scrupulous in the matter, and I expect that plenty of money will be lost over Helter Skelter, Devachon and Legatee for the Derby because certain layers are showing these in their prices. The three I have mentioned do not figure in the entries, so the man who books a bet about them is backing a certain non-runner.

FOR YOUR NOTE-BOOK.

Be on the look-out for Le Cellier. Nightingall has this 'chaser better than ever.

Despote is no longer a despot. From the way the gelding won at Newbury I am convinced he will prove a champion over two miles.

Desert Chief.—Don't condemn Desert Chief because of his Birmingham failure. He was beaten by a smasher in White Mountain.

Don't miss Onyx II. first time out. This Frenchman has beaten a field of crack horses over the water.

Ireland's Hope is, I believe, Lord Derby's only 'chaser. He was no match for Winall, but will win races.

Lenglen ran well in White Mountain's race at Birmingham. I have recollections of the gelded son of Long Set beating a large field at Manchester by twenty lengths. He is certain to pay his way this season.

Ring Tactics

It does not take much money in these hard times to contract the price of a horse. During the last Saturday of flat racing, I was standing beside one of the most popular layers in Tatt's, when he received an enquiry for an outsider. This was five minutes before the "off." He recorded a bet of £60 to £3, and remarked "The price is now 100 to 8." A friend of mine asked for 200 to 16, but was accommodated with £100 to £8. Mr. Penciller added: "The price is now sixes." My friend dashed all over the ring, but could not beat sixes, and took £150 to £25 with a layer on the rails. One other big wager was recorded, 600 to 100, and this determined the s.p. The horse, Rising Falcon, was beaten a short head.

Past Racing for 1925

To the racing man a complete return of the year's racing that can be relied upon for accuracy is not only an asset, but a necessity. I was having a chat one day last week with the Editor of the *Sporting Life and Sportsman*, who tells me that they are producing their "Annual Summary of Past Racing" for 1925 this week, and by the time this paragraph appears in print it will be on sale.

Some of the Contents

The "Summary" contains full returns of racing under both rules (fully indexed), winners of great races, flat racing and jumping fixtures for 1926, and much other interesting and useful Turf news. The fact that the book is published by the *Sporting Life and Sportsman* is all I need say as to its reliability and usefulness, and I would advise readers of JOHN BULL to secure a copy early. The "Summary" is just the right size to fit nicely into your coat pocket. The price is 2s. 6d., and it can be obtained from all newsagents, or post free 2s. 10d. from the Publisher, *Sporting Life and Sportsman*, 27, St. Bride Street, London, E.C.4.

THE JUMPING SEASON.

A sprint, at best, is only a scramble,
The race is won at the starting-gate.
The white flag falls and without preamble
The field flies by and you know your fate.
The horse you picked for a heavy gamble
Has started slowly and finished late.

But you've something to see with the timber toppers,
Real tests of stamina, skill and pluck.
Wonderful jumps and some awful croppers,
When horse and rider become unstuck.
And whether you're betting in pounds or coppers,
It's "over the top with the best of luck."

Odds about fav'rites the bookies squeeze on.
But what should we care if they win all right?
Form cuts no ice in the jumping season,
But money talks with a voice of might.
Just back the horses with Duller or Rees on,
And you'll soon be known as "The Bookie's Blight."

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in the following papers:—

Sporting Life and Sportsman, Chronicle, Mid-day Sporting Pink, Western Mail, Glasgow News Record, Irish Independent, Sporting Man, The Sheffield Mail.

2 L U H T E J C W I V S Z Q

A M R F K Y N P X B 3 O G D

How to read the code: In place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line as the case may be.

UYC2BQ would read REPAID.

This code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, December 9, to Tuesday, December 15.

"Soccer"

WEEK-END COUPS.

6 HOME.—Arsenal, Aston Villa, Preston, Bradford, Grimsby, Hearts.
5 HOME.—Aston Villa, South Shields, Chesterfield, Hamilton, Falkirk.
4 HOME.—Arsenal, Preston, Gillingham, Hearts.
3 AWAY.—Derby, Tottenham, Airdrie.
3 DRAWS.—Notts Co. v. Sunderland, Rotherham v. Lincoln, Luton v. Northampton.
3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Aston Villa, Sheffield Wednesday, Chesterfield, Birmingham, Airdrie
1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Sheffield Wednesday, Derby, Fulham v. Port Vale.

FORECASTS FOR DECEMBER 19.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION I.

HOME WINNERS.—Birmingham, Bury, Cardiff, Huddersfield, Manchester C., Sheffield U., Sunderland, Tottenham, West Bromwich.
AWAY WINNER.—Leicester.
DRAW.—Everton v. Bolton.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.

HOME WINNERS.—Blackpool, Bradford C., Chelsea, Darlington, Derby, Notts Forest, Southampton, Port Vale.
AWAY WINNER.—Middlesbrough.
DRAWS.—Barnsley v. Preston, Hull v. Wolverhampton.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (Northern).

HOME WINNERS.—Ashington, Barrow, Crewe, Lincoln, Nelson, Wrexham.
AWAY WINNERS.—Grimsby, Accrington.
DRAWS.—Coventry v. Rochdale, Doncaster v. Durham, Wigan v. Bradford.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION III. (Southern).

HOME WINNERS.—Aberdare, Brighton, Crystal Palace, Millwall, Northampton, Norwich, Plymouth, Southend.
AWAY WINNER.—Exeter.
DRAWS.—Brentford v. Reading, Bristol C. v. Charlton.

THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HOME WINNERS.—Aberdeen, Celtic, Hibernians, Kilmarnock, Partick, Cowdenbeath.
AWAY WINNERS.—Glasgow Rangers, Dundee.
DRAWS.—Hamilton v. St. Mirren, Motherwell v. St. Mirren.

SOUND ADVICE
To Racing Men
Read
The Sporting Life
and Sportsman

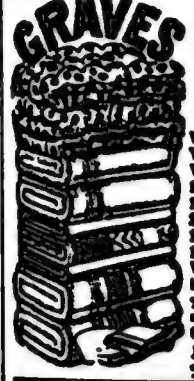
Selections

to Asthma sufferers instant relief!

Potter's Asthma Cure makes breathing easy, gives comfort by day and peaceful sleep at night. It works wonders in Bronchitis, Catarrh and Whooping Cough. *Best remedy for Bronchitis of Children.* All who are subject to chest or lung troubles should keep a tin handy, for prevention is better than cure. Potter's Asthma Cure is free from opiates and cannot cause headache. Of all medicine vendors 1/6, or post free 1/9 from Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60, Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

POTTER'S ASTHMA CURE

When outdoors smoke Potter's Asthma Cigarettes, 1/6 for box of 12, or Smoking Mixture in 9d. tins.



GRAVES' BARGAIN BEDDING SALE 10% now

World's Finest Value. 1 pr All-Wool Blankets: 1 pr White Fleecy Blankets; 1 pr Unbleached Twill Sheets; 2 White Pillow Cases; 1 White Bolster Case; 1 Alhambra Quilt; 1 Lovely Wadded Quilt. All double bed size. 24 : 10 : 6

Terms to approved callers—10% cash, balance 10% monthly. Catalogue Post Free.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

WHOOPING COUGH CURED

ANOTHER REMARKABLE TESTIMONY.

Mrs. Foster, of 25, William Road, Sutton, Surrey, writes:—

I wish to say how pleased I am with "GALLOWAY'S" COUGH SYRUP. My little boy had whooping cough, which left him with a very bad cough, and although we tried with practically every known remedy, he could not shake it off. We were advised to try "GALLOWAY'S" COUGH SYRUP, and much to our relief this quickly cured him.

It is pleasant to take, and I am sure that all children like it and will take "GALLOWAY'S" without any difficulty.

Every dose of "Galloway's" Cough Syrup is a sure step to speedy recovery, but see that it is "Galloway's."

GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP

Sold by Chemists and Stores everywhere. Price 1/9 and 2/6 per bottle; or direct from P. H. Galloway, Ltd., Chemists, London, S.E. 17, price 1/9 and 3/- post free.

1/9 Weekly

6 TUNES AND 200 NEEDLES WORTH 8/6 FREE

The World's Best Hornless Gramophone

3D. A DAY is all you pay for a British-made Mead No. 503 Hornless Table Grand—the best built, most handsomely designed and sweetest-toned gramophone Britain's cleverest craftsmen can produce. Each instrument is fitted with an Aluminium Sound-box which plays very much louder and far clearer than Reproducers on gramophones sold elsewhere *at double the price we ask.* The equipment embodies every new and novel device which twentieth-century science has evolved to ensure perfect reproduction of every kind of vocal and instrumental music. Read the specification at side hereof and see for yourself what a wondrous array of high-class fitments we supply. Competitors charge much higher prices for "imitations." But you can get a *genuine* "Mead" DIRECT FROM OUR WORKS at WHOLESALE FACTORY PRICES. Sent packed free and carriage paid on 10 days' trial. Money refunded in full if you are dissatisfied. Write now for monster art catalogue printed in colours, which illustrates and describes Mead gramophones in 30 styles and sizes, any of which you can buy, with whatever records you care to choose, at low cash prices or on easy credit terms. Send a postcard *TO-DAY*, and secure one of these magnificent instruments to brighten your home for the Christmas festivities.

SPECIFICATION. *CABINET* in brilliantly polished light oak finish, has daintily carved fretwork front artistically draped in satin. Sides and back have recessed panels. Size, 8-in. high by 16-in. wide. Two sound-modulating doors are nicely bevelled and fitted with oxidised beaded knobs, piano hinges and counter-sunk twin ball metal fasteners. TURNTABLE: plush covered 10-in. top, richly nickelled edge, affords expansive brake space for start and stop lever. MOTOR: Very latest type and British made throughout with diagonally-cut gears and large size drum drawn from solid steel, embracing ¾-in. perfectly tempered steel spring, rotates two 12-in. records at one winding. Accurately balanced governors ensure uniform speed control. SOUND BOX: Super-sensitive Reproducer with best mica diaphragm, reinforced with rubber gaskets, yields an immense volume of sound which is greatly intensified by an internal wood SOUND CHAMBER of massive proportions. TONE-ARM of new tapered type, nickel silver plated, has patent lift-up swan neck attachment to facilitate needle changing. NICKEL SILVER NEEDLE CUP is sunk in motor board.

Mead

COMPANY (Dept. G 213) BIRMINGHAM.

John Bull Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are handled by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

THERE is no need to worry and endure sleepless nights by reason of being encompassed by some problem which seems to be unsolvable.

Pass it on to "John Bull's" Free Advice Service. Never mind what is the nature of the trouble. We will tell you what to do.

Send particulars, with stamped addressed envelope, and your anxiety will soon be removed.

NANCY P. (Southall).—"I once missed the last train." Doubtless you caught it when you arrived home.

MISS M. (Lancaster).—"My fiancé spends a lot of money collecting antiques." That sounds lucky for you.

H. Y. (Chislehurst).—"There's something in what you say." But very little in what's often said to us.

J. C. (Tynemouth).—"I've got a pull in my job." Better work on your own merits or you might get a push.

H. M. V. (London, N.).—"A lot of money will change hands over the Grand National." You can bet on it.

O. L. (Hayes).—"I am enclosing a poem in fifty-three stanzas." O. L.!

J. H. L. (Settle).—"I am always listening-in." We'll wager you never hear any good of yourself.

MISS D. (Bradford).—"I will never marry a man afraid to take a risk." We're sure you never will.

MRS. D. (Barnsley).—"It's hard for a mother to lose her only daughter by marriage." In these days of more women than men some mothers find it impossible.

S. S. (Southport).—"It is now more than a month since I saw the face of my beloved." Can't you persuade her to wash it?

CONSTANCE F. (Mitcham).—"Is anything made by writing words for Christmas cards?" Yes—a lot of rotten bad verse.

JESSIE P. (Morecambe).—"A woman always looks before she leaps." And before she walks if there's a looking-glass handy.

"TIRED" (Golders Green).—"Professional men always seem keen on winter sports." Doctors and bone-setters find a lot of profit in them.

HORRIFIED (Plumstead).—"I have seen the announcement of my own death in the papers." Where are you writing from?

G. O. (Hampstead).—"Why didn't you print the capital story I sent you?" Because the compositors warned us they hadn't enough capital I's.

J. M. (Beaconsfield).—"I tried to borrow the money from a pal, but he wrote that he would like to help me but couldn't." Did you thank him for his unremitting kindness?

V. H. C. (Watford).—"My wife declares she will wear one of those horrible backless frocks at a dance we are going to just before Christmas." Perhaps she wants to go as a Christmas "Eve."

MRS. JACKSON (Hornsey).—"My greengrocer stocks tinned fruits and several other lines, which he sells cheaper than the grocers in the neighbourhood." That, we suppose, turns the grocers green.

G. L. (Newbury).—"Our new housemaid seemed an extremely nice girl until we had cause to suspect her of pilfering." And then her taking ways didn't appeal to you quite as much.

P. L. (Evesham).—"The other day my young son, who has a violent temper, actually threatened to kill his younger brother." And didn't you threaten him, in return, with the brand of cane?

DORIS F. (Maidstone).—"My uncle is a maker of calendars, and I should like to send him a suitable Christmas present." Why not try him with a box of dates?

F. N. (Barnet).—"I use my head." As a hat-rack?

G. N. (Epsom).—"It's lonely driving a car by oneself." But sooner or later you'll run into somebody.

N. U. R. (Hove).—"Parliament is sitting." And, as usual, on the taxpayer.

T. P. (Durham).—"We have a grand baby." Got a baby grand for it to play?

L. T. (Bradford).—"Why can't a girl catch a ball like a man?" A man is so much easier to catch.

G. J. (Hendon).—"I find billiards a ripping game." We can guess what sort of a player you are.

F. N. (Melton).—"We have settled down for a long peace." But we haven't settled up for the long war yet.

D. L. (Ramsgate).—"My new loud-speaker is so powerful that the neighbours object." London bawling!

H. M. (London, N.).—"There is peace in the building trade." We've noticed that.

G. N. D. (Boxhill).—"I have a friend who is a grocer." Is he dear to you?

A. T. (Folkestone).—"How many office boys work in your establishment?" Very few of them.

J. H. (Hartlepool).—"A bad workman blames his tools." That's an old saw.

P. N. (Hornsey).—"I gave the waiter a good tip." And was it amongst the first three?

T. N. (Sudbury).—"Your paper makes me think." We're having the flags hung out.

L. N. (Hackney).—"Some of the daintiest evening shoes now on sale are made in the East End of London." The daintier they are the sooner they go West.

L. T. (Dover).—"My husband is home a good deal, but he never helps me in the house." He evidently thinks that a man must shirk and a woman must sweep.

K. N. (Hampstead).—"What has the Cabinet done to deserve such criticism from the unemployed?" Nothing! Absolutely nothing!

G. M. (Acton).—"It is not permitted to take up a collection from the crowds in Hyde Park." That's why there are crowds there.

C. T. (Crewe).—"I tell my wife everything that happens." Some husbands tell their wives lots of things that never happen.

G. N. (Ely).—"If Shakespeare were alive to-day he would be regarded as an extraordinary man." Yes, he would be over 300 years old.

H. N. (London, S.W.—"In a weak moment he stole a safe." Goodness! What would he have stolen in a strong moment?

Three Simple Rules

THOSE who are qualifying for their Free 10s. 6d. Razor Sets this week are asked to observe the following simple conditions in order to facilitate prompt despatch:—

1. Where a "John Bull" reader has introduced a friend both his own and his friend's Gift Vouchers must be sent in *together* to "John Bull" in the same envelope. Do NOT send in separately. Do NOT enclose any correspondence.
2. Both your own and your friend's Gift Vouchers MUST be properly completed before either of you is qualified for your Gift.
3. Be sure to enclose correct amount to cover postage, packing and insurance of sets to your respective addresses—*i.e.*, 6d. for your own set and 6d. for your friend's set, making one shilling in all. Cross P.O.'s "and Co." and make payable to "John Bull."

J. F. (Regent's Park).—"I'm enclosing some poetry." You're mistaken. It's not.

A. T. (Streatham).—"Mussolini is writing a play." He's dictating it, of course.

J. Y. T. (Polegate).—"I have an idea for a revue." Don't be extravagant. One idea does for a lot of revues.

A. L. (Peckham).—"What are therms?" They are little pests with cubic feet and multiply very quickly.

K. R. (Dudley).—"I'm glad I've written this letter, anyhow." You've certainly written it anyhow.

H. A. (Dublin).—"Why does coal burn more rapidly in cold weather?" Sheer cussedness!

R. R. (Maidenhead).—"I believe in looking forward." Well, that's all right, so long as you aren't.

D. P. (Llandudno).—"Tell me how to achieve success in two words." Wake, work.

BESSIE (Edinburgh).—"He took great pains to teach me to skate, then went off with another girl." Leaving you to take your pains for yourself.

H. V. (Lancaster).—"My boys simply will not do as I say." Probably they think it more interesting to do as you do.

W. R. (York).—"Very shortly we shall all be lying with our forefathers." For ourselves we shall tell the truth in future exactly as we do now.

BERTIE (Oxford).—"How long do you think any man could live without a brain?" We'll give the answer when you give your age.

TERSA (Hanwell).—"Shall you make any good resolutions for the New Year?" Yes, we shan't answer silly questions.

P. F. (Bingley).—"He goes straight from church service into the public-house." Naturally he shows a thirst after righteousness.

G. I. (Islington).—"It's a wearisome job tramping a policeman's beat." Yet they seem to go a long time without arrest.

C. N. (New Brighton). "Can you give me a good tip for the jumping season?" Yes—watch for a jump in *Bullets* prizes.

MINNIE (Kew).—"Judging from enclosed photo do you think I have a pretty mouth?" Dear Minnie, it's simply immense.

L. D. E. (Waterford).—"I've seen a bottle of poison one drop from which would kill a man." We've seen any number of aeroplanes of which the same could be said.

HESTER (Brentford).—"I found myself kissed in the dark by a strange man." What a very strange man he must have been to kiss you.

MRS. C. (Liverpool).—"I am disgusted with the way grocers in this neighbourhood serve you." Long waits or short weights?

PURITAN (Manchester).—"Henceforth in this house your name is obliterated." Thanks awfully, but we prefer the name we've always used.

GEORGE B. (Southwark).—"I was forced to begin life at a terribly early age." In fact, you began when you were born, just like the rest of us.

JESSIE (Long Sutton).—"Is brandy or whisky the best cure for sea sickness?" You'll find neither as good as port.

PUZZLED (Cheapside).—"I can't see why non-dancing restaurants should have a band playing during meals." Merely to put a good din in dinner we suppose.

H. J. (Nelson).—"Because my brother inherited the money he says I'm not an equal." He's a silly fool; of course you're his equal.

DAISY (Plumstead).—"I expect when I was out of sight of your office I was out of mind." What sent you insane?

B. M. (Worthing).—"I told him straight if he brings his brother Bill here I'll not meet him." Possibly you already have too many bills to meet.

BASHFUL (Glasgow).—"I meant to pop the question when we went skating but had the bad luck to fall in." At least you managed to break the ice.

LOCAL PREACHER (Harrogate).—"I find my audiences always agree with these views." You can see them nodding we suppose.

SPINSTER (Hampstead).—"In this day man must concede woman the right to stand upon her own feet." Judging from his attitude in crowded 'buses and Tubes he does.

K. L. (Todmorden).—"No one can feel happy when all things around them are dull." Unless they happen to be axe-grinders or scissors sharpeners.

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

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I do not say I *may*—I WILL I MEAN I will teach YOU from Ordinary Music, BY POST, at Home in your leisure time, to get that mastery of the score *at Sight* and liquid, flowing *beauty of tone* you have envied in professional players.

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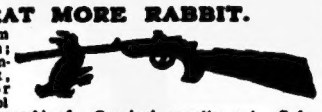

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Neuritis	Nerve Pains	Kidney Weakness
Indigestion	Headache	Children's Weakness
Sleeplessness	Anæmia	Wasting

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Even if no symptoms appear and a risk of venereal infection has taken place, go at once to a doctor or attend at one of the Free Treatment Centres for advice.

There may be nothing the matter, but if there is, the earlier the treatment is begun, the quicker and surer is the cure.

Advice and treatment may be had both free of charge and under conditions of secrecy.

False shame is sheer folly. The real shame is to remain uncured and thus to risk passing on the disease to an innocent person.

Full information free (in plain cover) can be obtained from the Hon. Medical Secretary, British Social Hygiene Council (Incorporated), Dept. P, Carteret House, 1, Carteret Street, Westminster, S.W. 1, and his advice will be available free at this address on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 12.30 to 2 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. No examination or treatment is undertaken at these offices.

Write for five useful booklets for Parents, 1/4 the set; six useful booklets for Girls, 1/4 the set; seven useful booklets for Young Men, 1/5 the set, all post free, in plain cover.

THE LOST PARADISE

Homeless in the Land of Hope and Glory

THE day on which these lines appear is an important anniversary. On this day, over 300 years ago, there was born in a house in Bread Street, Cheapside, a child destined to become famous throughout the world as John Milton, the author of "Paradise Lost."

One's thoughts cannot help turning to the thousands of heroes who left their homes a few years ago to go to war, and who were buoyed up in the times of tragedy through which they passed by promises made to them that they would return to a land made fit for heroes.

The pitiful plight of some of these heroes to-day almost beggars description. Many must feel completely shut out from the paradise to which they had looked forward, and condemned to the place which Milton described as the "house of woe and pain."

Week after week we receive pitiful appeals for assistance from men who in doing their duty seem to have lost their all. Many of them before the War were proud to call themselves master men in a small way.

NOW many such men have no means whatever of support. They have no pension and no "dole." Their businesses have been ruined, and their shops closed. Their homes, as they knew them before the War, are no longer in existence, most of their household goods having had to be sold to supply bare needs.

With health gone, home gone, happiness gone, they have almost reached the point where hope has gone, and may well regard themselves as inhabitants of the poet's "regions of sorrow where hope never comes."

"The Greatest of These—" Fund has saved many from the blackness of despair which is so often the prelude to self-destruction. Our most painful task is to have to decide which of many deserving cases are the most desperately in need of help, and it is heartbreaking to have to refuse assistance simply through lack of means.

We earnestly urge our readers to increase their contributions to this charitable work, which is carried on without any expense whatever to the subscribers, all administration costs being gladly borne by JOHN BULL.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the John Bull War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

G. Clark (Buenos Aires), 8 pesos; Brother Bert, 1s. 6d.; E. E. Kellie, 2s.; My 21st Ninth, P. D., 6d.; An Old Age Pensioner, 2s. 6d.; "Good Egg," 10s.; From Hill and Lott, 1s.; "Felt Pinch," 2s.; Ninth of Football Winnings, L. B., 1s. 4d.; K., 1s.; Douglas, 1s.; H. L. Godliff, 6d.; E. A. (Wallasey), 2s. 6d.; Pontnewydd, 6d.; A. P. N., 2s.; A. Langley, 1s.; "Pushy Kreutal, 2s.; "Nemo," 9d.; John Radcliffe, 6d.; L. V., 6d.; M. Collinson, 2s. 6d.; Every Little Helps, 2s. 6d.; "Ninth of Winnings," 6d.; "Gift Razor," J. W. Jeffs," 10s.; Morecambe, 4s.; E. B., 1s.; A Regular Reader, 1s. 6d.; Mrs. H. F. Thompson, parcel; Mrs. A. King, parcel and 1s.; J. Hoppe, 1s.; Mrs. E. Mitchell, 1s.; M. D., Southport, 4½d.; Mrs. C., 2s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. S. G., 1s.; H. Hall, 2s. 6d.; E. Watkins, 2s.; J. Henshall, £1; A. K., 10s.; A. E. H., 1s.; H. B., 1s.; J. N. S. M., 4d.; "Jessie," 1s.; M. M. F., 5s.; T. Purcell, 2s. 6d.; U. W., parcel; Grimsby, 1s.; H. E. M., 1s.; "Grateful Heart," 5s.; Friday's Ninth, 1s.; M. T. P., 6d.; Miss M. A. Tucker, 5s.; G. H. Wright, 10s.; J. Davidson, 2s. 6d.; J. Hawkins, 2s. 6d.; W. C. D., 1s.; A. Watson, 1s.; Mrs. R. Garrity, 1s.; J. Macdonald, 2s. 6d.; Mrs R. Jardine, 6d.; E. Barrett, 1s.; N. H. Greg, 1s.; Mrs. Berridge, 1s.; Ninth of Preston, 10d.; Best Wishes, 2s. 6d.

Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over.

This week's Cross-word Puzzle will be found on page 6.

Straightforward offer to readers of "John Bull."

free! Test this PROVED TREATMENT for Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, Lumbago and Neuralgia.

We ask no money for this perfectly free and unconditional trial. We say TEST the treatment first, free of all charge. Prove its value by actual personal experience, as did Mrs. M. Lindley, Priesthay Green, near Halifax, who writes (6/11/25): "The benefit I already feel is too great for words." We do not ask you to spend one penny until experience has proved that you, too, will get relief from "Napoleon" Gout and Rheumatism Powders.

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(P.1.)
Address .....

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FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

MR. W. BODILL, 18, Chippenham Gate Street, Monmouth.
Example:—What We All Want
Bullet:—Everybody Employed Supplying It.

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

Mr. C. BIRD, 72, Hayter Road, Brixton Hill, S.W.
Example:—Lovesick
Bullet:—Builds "Castle"—Forgets "Keep."

THIRD PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. B. JONES, 28, Cambrian Street, Holyhead.
Example:—Sooner The Better.
Bullet:—Penny "Post," Business "Pillar."

FOURTH PRIZE OF £25:

Mr. J. STARLING, 19, Trump Street, London, E.C.
Example:—What We All Want
Bullet:—"Bills" Down—"Peckers" Up.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

FIFTH PRIZE OF £10:

Mrs. S. SIMONS, Kelmscott Road, Clipston, Market Harborough.
Example:—Great Pity
Bullet:—"*Death Under* Ocean Wave."

10 Prizes of £5 each:

A. W. Bradgate, 23, The Gardens, Peckham Rye, S.E.—Mother's Way—Raised Family—Daughter's Objections.
A. Birks, 11, London Terrace, Blackburn.—When He's Finished—Decrying Wealth, Collection's Taken.
C. J. Fox, Watergate, Duloe, Cornwall.—What Is Happiness?—Wife's Scouring "*Bargain* Floor."
F. J. Freeman, 5, Felix Avenue, Crouch End, N.—What Her Mistress Said—"Dislike Master? I'll Divorce!"
E. F. Mills, 42, Arundel Road, Brighton.—My Dog—Companionship Preferred to Championship.
Miss G. Pedlar, Fernleigh Terrace, Nanpean, St. Austell.—Hubby's Money—Or Hubby, Brought Home.
J. W. Reid, 44, Cathcart Road, Kensington, S.W.—What We All Want—Inquiry Into "Tax Overweight."
W. D. Smith, 8, Willow Lane, St. Giles, Norwich.—His Excuse—Detained, "Thinking One Out.
E. M. Snowden, 42, South Parks Road, Oxford.—While Dole Lasts—Adolescence Should Do Lessons.
F. H. Threadkell, 39, Oxford Road, Ipswich.—When He's Finished—"The *Bore* The Merrier."

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

H. G. Brett, Kelvin, Church Road, Tiptree, Essex.—Becoming Her—History, Talkative Woman's Evidence.
R. Browne, 3, Burroughs Parade, Hendon, N.W.—My Dog Makes Traffic Dodge *Him*.
F. P. Evans, 28, Lammas Street, Carmarthen.—Chiefly—Curate Obtained—Not Ordained.
C. W. Higgins, 21, Archibald Street, Gloucester.—What We All Want—"Share" Without The "Plough."
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
T. Laycock, 10, Elem Place, Blackburn.—No Wonder—Firms Advertise Alongside Railways.
Miss P. Liggott, 1, Eusemere Avenue, Redbourne Street, Hull.—What We All Want—Foreign Estimation—Not Estimates.
H. O. Loughton, Field Lane, North Somercotes, Lincs.—What Her Mistress Said—Engaging, "And Your *references*?"
Miss E. Nelson, 278, Oxford Grove, Bolton.—What Is Happiness?—Remembering It—Expecting It.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
H. Owens, 1, Glanrhyd Road, Ystradgynlais, Swansea.—Mother's Way—Shields Prodigal—Denounces Prodigality.
J. Vaughan, Gilford, Co. Down.—A Ghost It Walked—We Didn't.

100 Prize-winners of £1:

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LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 585.

THE PACT
PICTURE OF HEALTH
NICE TIME
FATHER CHRISTMAS
CLEARING THE AIR
GETTING NEARER
IN A FLASH
SECOND MATE
WHAT THE TRAMP SAID
BEYOND DISPUTE
AUTOMATICALLY
SHOWED SHE WAS CLEVER
WITH PRACTICE
COOKING
AFTER THE PARTY
MIDNIGHT OIL
SMOKING
HEARD AT THE DOOR
WITHOUT A MAN
OVERWORKED
MY GOLD
WHEN SHE CRIES
GILDED YOUTH
ALL SHE SAID
FOUL PLAY
WHAT BABY CAN DO
FLYING VISIT
OUT OF ORDER
OLDEST INHABITANT
IF HE'S A FOOL
MIXED BLESSING
WHAT IS A PEDESTRIAN?

J. Fogarty, 16, Spottiswoode Rd., Edinburgh; W. Forrest, Post Office Buildings, Thankerton, Lanarks.; H. Gibbard, Ardley, Bicester, Oxon; J. Graham, 69, Belmont Av., Belfast; E. Graves, Greenfield House, Green Lane, Yealdon, Leeds; G. H. Green, 1, Derby Pl., Heelr, Sheffield; A. J. Harrison, 75, Coltart Rd., Liverpool; J. Hatton, 223, Blackstock Rd., Highbury, N.; J. Hearn, 5, Peter St., Hulme, Manc.; W. Hesketh, 2, Agnew Rd., Fleetwood; F. H. Hiron, 64, Hampton Rd., Forest Gate, E.; G. H. Hoyle, 20 Millarbarn Lane, Waterfoot, nr. Manc.; Miss G. Ireland, 1, Pagden St., Havelock Terr., Battersea, S.W.; Mrs. F. Jones, "Jesmondene," Meadow Rd., Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent; A. G. Jones, c/o Hughes, Spring Gdns., Bourne End, Bucks; Miss M. Johnstone, 16, Polmont St., Eaglesham; J. E. Kaye, 38, Martin St., Halifax; A. J. Kerslake, 72, Lyta St., Fulham, S.W.; R. L. Lambert, 89, Norman Av., Nuneaton; W. M. Larmon, 19, Ranfurly Drive, Belfast; R. R. Law, 104, Newtine Rd., Bacup; L. Lawson, Beast Fair, Snaith, nr. Goole; G. Loukes, 6, Alderson Rd., Sheffield; Mrs. H. Malkin, 15, Hawthorn Pl., Armley, Leeds; S. Mackell, 314, High St., Chatham; F. McFarlane, 14, Gateside, Whitburn, Westlothian; J. McIntyre, 10, Birkwood St., Dalmarnock, Glasgow; Mrs. McKie, 61, Battinson; Newtownards, Belfast; G. Middlemas, Fenwick Grove, Morpeth; G. Morris, "Bryn-Hyfryd," Llanbedr, Merionethshire; F. W. Morrison, 25, Tanza Rd., Hampstead; Mrs. J. S. Newey, 62, Graveley Hill, B'ham.; H. Owens, 1, Glanrhyd Rd., Ystradgynlais, Swansea; Mrs. K. M. Parsons, 10, Whitehall Gdns., Victoria Av., Hull; H. Pearson, 187, Cog Lane, Burnley; F. S. Philips, 15, Trinity Rd., Wood Green, N.; A. Poulden, 152, Telephone Rd., Southsea; A. E. Powell, 67, Percy St., Bedminster, Bristol; W. K. Pritchard, 31, Perrers Rd., Oswestry; Salop; W. Ramsey, 108, Vine St., Coventry; J. Redmond, 14, Elgin Rd., Ballsbridge, Dublin; C. E. Reilly, 44, Emily Rd., 9th. Yardley, B'ham.;

(*Continued on page 8.*)

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

Choose any of the Examples printed; then give any **Two, Three or Four Words**, having some bearing on the Example chosen, each of which can begin with any letter in the alphabet. These specimens will guide you:—
Example:—The Middle Classes Bullet:—Very Silent—Very Sound.
Example:—The Dole Bullet:—Feeds Man—Starves Manhood
Example:—Happy Family Bullet:—"Brood" Who Don't?

SEND POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6d. FOR EACH COUPON USED.

PLEASE POST EARLY IF YOU CAN

You can help us by posting early, but all "Bullets" entered in time receive the same careful adjudication.

Address Coupons to—"Bullets" No. 585, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Comp.)

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 17.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(585) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 8. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 17.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(585) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 8. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 17.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(585) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 8. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 17.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(585) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 8. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 586.

MY CHRISTMAS-BOX—HELPING HER—A WHITE LIE—SWEET YOUNG THING—WHAT THE PAPER SAID—UNDER THE MISTLETOE—HIS SHIRT—ENOUGH TO DO—HEARD AT THE CINEMA—SUSPICIOUSLY—WHEN FATHER'S ABOUT—AFTER CHRISTMAS—HEIGHT OF FASHION—MERRY AND BRIGHT—LAUGHING—A HOWLER—SHOULD BE ABOLISHED—THANKS TO THE DOLE—GOOD AS GOLD—WHAT IS A GIRL?

These Examples can be made use of on the Coupons on this page, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31.** All Coupons so used **MUST** be marked clearly with the number **586** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. **586**, John Bull, Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.). Such Coupons must not contain any of the Examples for Competition No. **585.**

A New Year Surprise is coming—watch the "Bullets" prize-list!

Is Catarrh Poisoning YOU?

"Better in Every Way"—After 6 Years' Deafness and Head Noises.

R. K. BROOKSBANK

Mr. R. Brooksbank, North Warnborough, near Odiham, Hants, writes:—"Since 1915 I suffered from Chronic Catarrh. For six years I was Deaf with constant ringing noises in the head. My condition was almost unbearable. At once, after starting the 'Shirley System,' there was a marvellous improvement. I can now breathe freely, am thoroughly fit, and better than I have been for years."—Nov. 12th, 1925.

Read How These Men and Women Cured This Deadly Complaint (commonly known as Chronic Cold in the Head) and then

TRY MY SYSTEM ON 10 DAYS' TRIAL

2 Years' Catarrh, Deafness, Head Noises Cured in 30 Days.

MISS LOCKLAND.

Miss E. E. Lockland, 76, Derngate, Northampton, writes:—"For two years I suffered from Catarrh, and was partially deaf. I caught colds very quickly, and then the Deafness grew worse. I had head noises, constant headaches, pains over eyes, throat trouble, and cough. The 'Shirley System' completely cured me in four weeks."—Nov. 11th, 1925.

Thousands being Poisoned by Catarrh!

"Thought She Would Die, Nearly Went Mad With Pain."

MRS. GRIFFITHS.

Mrs. Griffiths, 10, Swan Court, Forgate Street, Chester, writes:—"I suffered four years from Catarrh headaches, and head noises (as if bells were ringing). I nearly went mad with ear pains. I thought I should die. I had sick bouts and could not breathe. I was very deaf. What a difference the 'Shirley Treatment' made! From the first day I felt better. In a month the wonderful cure was complete."—Nov. 11th, 1925.

You need not continue to suffer from this Blood-and-Body-Poisoning complaint and its serious consequences any longer. To-day, a proved remedy, that has cured thousands, is offered "on trial" to every sufferer.

Even in cases where every other treatment has failed, my "Shirley System" has brought about a complete cure. Read and judge for yourself from the successful "experiences" of others. This always-successful treatment clears every trace and symptom of Deadly Catarrh out of the system. It also stops the formation and accumulation of the poisonous catarrhal mucus. It soothes and strengthens the too sensitive membranous lining of the throat, nasal and other air passages.

12 Years' Catarral Deafness Permanently Cured in 4 Weeks.

MR. A. DAVIES.

Mr. Arthur Davies, 18, Oak Hill Road, Housing Site, Batley, writes:—"For 12 years up to 18 months ago I was Deaf. The terrible affliction was caused by constant colds—one after another. I tried many so-called 'Remedies' but they had no effect. Then I started the 'Shirley System,' and in 4 weeks I could hear again. My health was better in all ways! The cure has proved permanent, and I am really satisfied."—Nov. 3rd, 1925.

Beware of these Dangerous Symptoms.

10 Years' Catarrh Completely Cured in 30 Days.

MISS RAWCLIFFE

Miss M. Rawcliffe, 25, Garstang Road, Wesham, near Kirkham, Lancs., writes: "Since I was 8 I have had Catarrh. For 10 years I was always catching colds, which cling. Taste and smell were affected. My throat also. There was constant head pressure, and pains over the eyes. The digestive system was always in rebellion. Since commencing the Shirley System,' I am quite cured."—Nov. 2nd, 1925.

—If phlegm drops into the back of your Throat,
—If you have a tendency to catch Colds easily,
—If there is a feeling of dryness in your Throat,
—If you have to clear the Throat frequently,
—If your Nose is stopped up or "stuffy,"
—If you feel tired on rising,
—If your voice is husky,
—If there is pain between or over the eyes,
—If you sneeze frequently,
—If a change in the weather affects you,
—If you suffer from frontal headaches,
—If you suffer from shortness of breath,
—If your sense of smell is affected,
—If you suffer from strange "head noises,"
—If there is a sense of fulness or pressure in your head.

2½ Years' Chronic Gastric Catarrh Cured in Two Weeks.

MISS N. DAVIES.

Miss Nellie Davies, The Dial House, Thorny Hill, near Christchurch, Hants, writes:—"For 2½ years I suffered from Gastric Catarrh. I hovered between life and death. I was in hospital six weeks. Gastric Trouble, Indigestion, and depression made my life a misery. Your treatment completely cured me."—Nov. 1st, 1925.

TEST My Method on 10 Days' Trial.

Doctors new realise that Catarrh is dangerous. It not only causes much suffering and distress, but it has a high rate of mortality, because the slimy and poisonous mucus flows downwards (especially during sleep) into the stomach, intestines, and other organs, causing Malnutrition, Debility and a Catarrhal condition of the whole inner man that lowers resisting power to disease, and leads to such deadly ailments as Gastric Catarrh, Intestinal Catarrh, and even Consumption itself.

If you are in the Grip of Catarrh, don't delay, but write to me to-day, and learn how speedily the "Shirley System" will save you from the miseries and risks of Catarrh in all its forms, including Catarrhal Deafness and Gastric Catarrh.

It will bring you relief from the very first. The stuffed-up passages get clear, easy nasal breathing follows, head noises disappear. Headaches, too, become things of the past, and your whole system is completely cleared of the slimy and poisonous mucus. It will lift the Crushing Burden of Catarrh from your shoulders like magic.

No matter how often you have been disappointed before, or how long you have suffered, don't despair until you have tried the wonderful "Shirley System."

10 DAYS' TRIAL OF THE "SHIRLEY SYSTEM."

This treatment has proved so remarkably successful, even in the worst forms of Chronic Catarrh, Deafness, Head Noises, etc., that I will gladly send it on 10 days' trial to any sufferer on the distinct understanding that if no benefit is derived no expense of any kind will be incurred. Simply fill in your name and address on the Special Coupon opposite and post immediately to me The most important point in your own interest is to **act at once and send this Coupon NOW.**

COUPON

To Mr. ELMER SHIRLEY,
82, Gray's Inn Road (S.951), London, W.C.1.

Dear Sir,—Please send me at once full particulars so that I can avail myself of 10 Days' Trial of the Shirley System, as per your JOHN BULL Special Offer

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

(Personal consultations by appointment 3 to 4 o'clock daily, except Saturdays.)

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